



Clown minister Carol Phipps uses clowning to tell the story of Christ's love. Clowning, a creative approach to sharing the gospel, communicates God's sense of honor, personalness and love, says Phipps.

3,000 tongues to go

1,000 tribes in 50 years

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (EP) — A single vision, a single purpose characterized W. Cameron Townsend's life — to get God's written Word into every language on the face of the earth. Today, fifty years later, the army of translators numbers 5,000 and reaches into 1,000 tribes around the world.

"We're progressing so fast today it's hard to keep up with the development," reported Elaine Townsend, his widow, at a special anniversary rally in Minneapolis. Joining for this occasion and many others like it across the nation this fall were Wycliffe staff members, their parents, Wycliffe Associates who serve as short term volunteers and friends who support the work.

"This year we've entered our 1000th tribe," Mrs. Townsend said, "and over 300 recruits are joining our ranks. Our goal for this decade of the 80's is for 3,000 new workers and we're right on schedule. And, the doors of opportunity that seemed to be closing a few years ago in Central and South America are more open than ever."

Cameron Townsend's last dream of reaching into the Soviet Union is also starting to bear fruit, Mrs. Townsend said. Work with Soviet linguists that she and her husband, who died in 1982,

started in the 1970's has resulted in Scriptures being translated into five Soviet languages. Other Bible translations into Soviet languages done by a Swedish group working with displaced persons brings the total of Russian languages with some portion of the Scripture in their own tongue to 28.

At the present time Wycliffe language experts, led by Kenneth Pike, are working with linguists in Red China, teaching techniques developed through solving Bible translation problems around the world.

Today's biggest opportunity for translation, according to Mrs. Townsend, is in Indonesia with 700 languages and New Guinea with 650. To speed the task, she said, training is being provided for national Christian translators to do the job themselves.

"Opposition to our work is often the strongest when we come close to the completion of a New Testament translation," said Mrs. Townsend. "Our workers may have trouble getting paper, a press may break down or there is active opposition as people come to know the Lord."

Wycliffe's work of translating the Bible into 250 languages so far has succeeded, said Mrs. Townsend,

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, November 1, 1984

Published Since 1877

"Clowns turn other cheek; they see . . . as a child sees"

By Leisa A. Hammett

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (BP) — Clowning is serious business for Carol Phipps, singles and youth minister for First Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va.

A native of Maryland, Phipps has been clowning around for almost 14 years, dressing up in costume to entertain people. But it wasn't until she was asked to "clown her testimony" (a humorous dramatization of her testimony) that clowning took on real meaning to her.

Now she considers herself a clown minister.

Phipps had never written or performed a humorous dramatization of her testimony before. At first she was flabbergasted by the assignment. But the experience challenged her to remember becoming a Christian when she was an 11-year-old child.

Phipps did not grow up in a Christian home, but went alone to a large church each Sunday. "I didn't know how to sing hymns, or that you were supposed to read from stanza to stanza and not across two whole pages," she laughed.

Because of this great interest in tribes' people and leaders alike, Cameron counted 41 heads of state as personal friends, Mrs. Townsend said. "Such friendships often opened the doors to new areas of service. Yet, she said, he was always faithful in sharing God's Word with the leaders as well as the tribesmen. Frequently he would ask a visiting ambassador or official to read a Bible portion when they were visiting in the Townsend home.

Cameron Townsend's love for God's Word, said Mrs. Townsend, was fostered in him by his father who, though deaf, never let a day start without reading from the Scriptures. Cameron followed that practice in his own home with his four children.

Wycliffe's big challenge for the future is to find some way of entrance into the Muslim world, said Mrs. Townsend. "The only way it can be accomplished is by showing them love."

Remembering and incorporating her childhood experiences in church added a new dimension to her clowning ministry. Now those experiences seem funny, but as a child they were scary and frustrating, Phipps said.

Being a child of God, figuratively and literally, made her "stumbling blocks into stepping stones," she said.

"If you understand the Scriptures you realize God is very personal. God has a sense of humor; he laughs and wants us to be his children," Phipps explained. "Clowns epitomize (that) tenderness and childlikeness," she said.

"Clowns willingly take the slaps life gives them and then get back up. Like Jesus, they turn the other cheek. Clowns renew their sense of wonder and awe," she added.

To prepare for her clowning, Phipps studies the Bible, the background of the Scriptures, and Hebrew and Greek translations of the Bible. "Then I try to see (God's message) as a child would, using all my senses," Phipps said.

"I've grown so much through clowning," she stated. "It's like being born again, seeing the world as a child. There is a sense of excitement . . . hope, joy and vulnerability."

"A clown is automatically somebody . . . just the makeup and the costume get attention," Phipps said explaining a clown's white makeup signifies death and its red nose signifies resurrection. Other colors signify a clown's individuality.

She explained her clown, Servo Servin, (meaning "I serve serving") exemplifies her approach to ministry — trying to model Jesus Christ who is "the greatest servant." In June 1982, clowning also became her fulltime job.

Phipps and roommate Karen Heath began a free-lance clowning ministry called "E.T.S., Equipping to Serve and Entertaining the Saints," to provide storytelling, clowning, mime, puppetry for churches, camps, retreats and hospitals.

After a year of travel with E.T.S. Phipps and Heath moved to Williamsport, Pa., to work as Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Mission Service Corp volunteers.

Phipps, a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was minister of education and youth and Heath was minister of outreach and administration for First Southern Baptist Church in Williamsport.

Seven months later Phipps and Heath moved to Alexandria where Phipps began working at First Baptist and Heath started school at Gallaudet College for deaf.

Now, as a clown minister, she doesn't just entertain children. When she puts on her red nose and white makeup, she is trying to use creative new approaches to tell the story of Christ's love. For her, that's such good news it's worth clowning about.

Leisa Hammett writes for the HMB.

Scientists seek to find secret of grain storage used by Joseph

TEL AVIV, Israel (EP) Research scientists in Israel are trying to find out how Joseph was able to preserve grain for seven years in the hot climate of Egypt. So far they haven't met with too much success, according to the Jerusalem Post.

Researchers at the Volcan Center in Rishon Lezion are experimenting with temporary silos for the same reason that Joseph built them; extra storage during the good years will prepare for the bad ones to follow. When there is a bumper crop today, very often there is not enough storage available to hold the entire harvest.

Joseph's feat of preserving grain for seven years is considered almost impossible today. Problems caused by micro-organisms, pests and rodents that attack storage places often result in the loss of a crop.

Scientists believe that Joseph used a method still utilized by the Bedouins today; they dig deep holes in the ground and fill them with grain. This method has some drawbacks however, it is difficult to fill and empty such holes, and they can be susceptible to rodent attacks.

To overcome these problems, Israeli agricultural researchers are now using a large silo made of heavy metal mesh covered with heavy plastic sheets. Each silo will hold 560 tons of grain and be ventilated with cool air at night and hot air by day. Scientists plan to store wheat in the silo for a three year test.

Editorials..... by don mcgregor

Lottery bill a sure bet

It seems a sure bet, if you'll pardon the pun, that a bill that would legalize a lottery in Mississippi will be pre-filed for next year's legislative session. The outside interests that are interested in making money off of Mississippians who would play the lottery were in town some days ago to testify before a House subcommittee that is making a study of the lottery situation.

This was not a hearing to discuss the morality or lack of same that would be tied up in a lottery operation. It was to consider the impact of a lottery on the state. The people from Scientific Games Inc. were here to explain all of that. They are the people who will make a bundle off of initial investments and then evidently continue to make \$4.8 million a year off of continuing expenses.

The Scientific Games people provided the legislators a great deal of material to digest, all of which looked impressive. It appears, however, that the Scientific Games folks may have engaged in a bit of leg pulling as they presented their material.

Surely the Scientific Games representatives did not intend to give any false information and no doubt did not. The way it was presented, however, may have caused just a bit of confusion.

Scientific Games provided information that showed the lottery sales in 18 states for 1983 compared with the population in the same states. The information noted that lottery sales varied all the way from \$5.33 per capita in Delaware to \$105.48 in New Jersey. The total sales, the games people pointed out, were \$6,084,400,000 in those 18 states, which have a total population of 95.7 million people. This makes average sales of \$63.58.

So Scientific Games has come to Jackson to point out that with sales of

\$63.58 per person and with 2.52 million people in Mississippi, the gross sales in Mississippi would be \$160 million annually. With these figures the games representatives have projected that the state's revenues at 41 percent of the \$160 million total would be \$65.6 million.

The prizes at 47.5 percent of the sales would be \$76 million. Retailers' commissions at 5 percent would be \$8 million. The ticket costs at 3 percent would be \$4.8 million. Promotional expenses at 1.5 percent would take only \$2.4 million. And operating expenses would require \$3.2 million at 2 percent.

All of those figures were predicated on the fact that Mississippians would spend an average of \$63.58 each during the first year of operation. The catch is that of the 18 states, 11 had expenditures of less than the average figure. Many of them were somewhat less.

The lowest, as has been noted, was Delaware with \$5.33. Now suppose Mississippi didn't do any better than that. And I should think that the experience in Mississippi would be a far cry from the \$63.58.

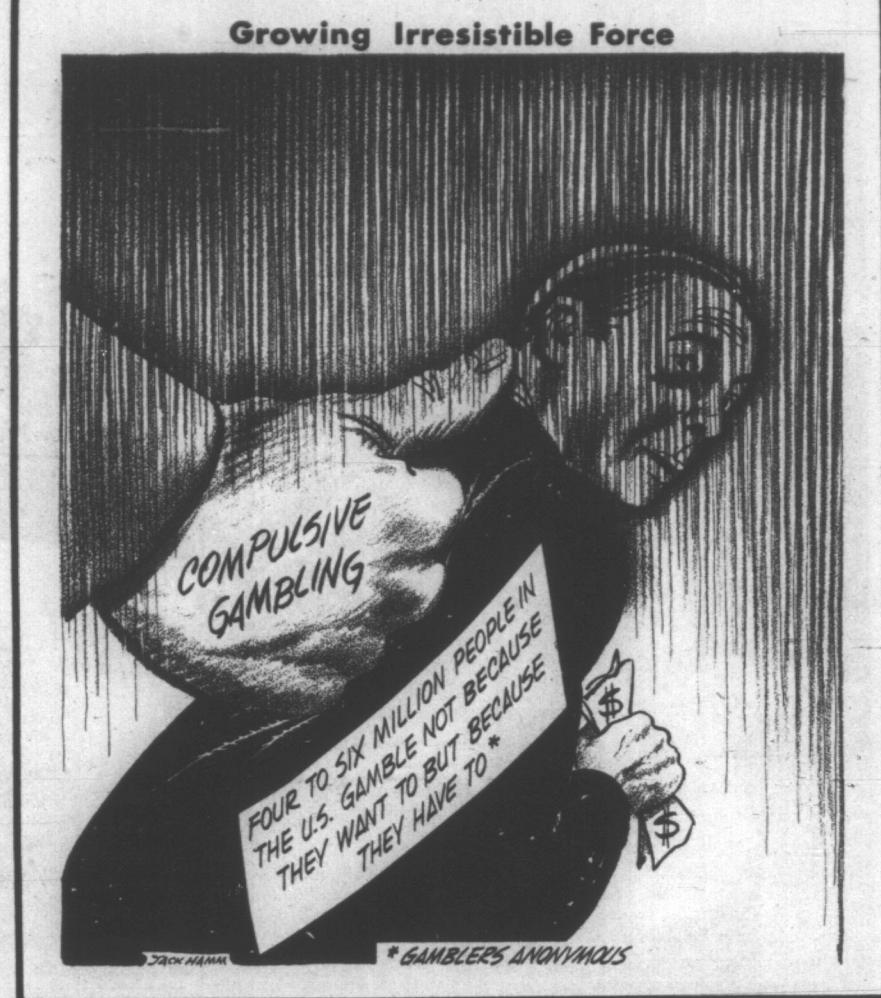
But let's examine what the Mississippi experience would be at \$5.33.

The gross sales, of course, would drop to less than \$13.4 million from the projected \$160 million. The net revenue for the state is the most important figure; and at gross sales of \$13.4 million the net revenue would be about \$5.5 million. And this is a far cry from the \$65.6 million that had been promoted in the sales pitch.

At sales of \$13.4 million the prizes would drop from \$76 million to \$6.4 million. Retailers' commission would go from the projected \$8 million to only \$670,000.

Now here is something that throws the whole thing out of kilter and could make those figures above even lower than they are shown. The ticket costs, promotional expenses, and operating expenses are shown on a percentage basis and based on the sales of \$160 million. Those factors must be planned for and paid for in advance, however, meaning they cannot be placed on a percentage basis. That would mean that they would take up a bigger share of the total income, unless the total went above the average for the 18 states, thereby leaving even less for net revenue, prizes, and commissions.

It's not a very attractive picture. And a lottery is not a very attractive proposition. By its very nature, it will



prey on those who can't afford to use it. Those who are satisfied with their financial conditions will not use it. Those who feel they must try anything will be tempted.

One lottery supporter said that the state cannot be the person's Sunday School teacher. True. And neither should the state wilfully place unnecessary temptations in his way.

We don't need a lottery. And if we

should happen to get one anyway, the great possibility is that we will be disappointed with what we get.

We would be teaching our children to gamble by television, for that is where they will see the winning numbers flashed on the screen several times daily.

If we are interested in a gradual move toward degradation, this is a step in the right direction.

Guest opinion . . .

The Southern Baptist Convention — The Cooperative Program

An eight-part series

Part 4

By Owen Cooper

The percentage contribution a church gives through the Cooperative Program (CP) in financing the agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) is an appropriate matter for consideration in electing officers of the convention. It may not be an appropriate factor in determining who shall be messengers to the convention. Messengers to the convention are elected by the churches primarily to report back to the churches action taken at the convention and to seek cooperation of the churches in supporting the programs adopted. The message can be carried by one from a church who gives a relatively small percentage through the CP and hopefully would be an encouragement to the church to give more through the CP.

It is an entirely different matter when the leaders of the convention are selected. The leaders should reflect the best that is being done in the convention, they should represent churches that are worthy "role models" in financially supporting the convention, and their example in missions giving should be such as to challenge the convention in a positive way. How can one be a thoroughly effective leader if he is obviously not

proportionately supportive financially of the purposes and programs of those they lead?

Leaders of the convention should be persons of whom it could be said, "Your actions and that of your church speak so loud it isn't necessary for us to hear what you say." The percentage giving through the CP certainly is not the only criteria in choosing leaders, but it is an important and appropriate one.

The annual meeting of the SBC is primarily a "business meeting" to hear reports from the boards, agencies, and commissions to give a financial accounting and to adopt a budget for the next year, which budget will receive substantially all of its income from gifts through the CP. Hence, the relevancy of CP giving to the practice, and the commitment of convention officers to the source through which the convention is financed.

Some would say, "Why not a dollar amount rather than a percentage in establishing the credibility of elected convention leaders in regard to the CP?" This would be totally unfair. A relatively small church might give 20 percent through the CP, which in aggregate could be \$25,000. At the same time, a large church with thousands

of members might give \$50,000 through the CP, yet in terms of its budget, this would represent less than 3 percent. To say that the large church giving only 3 percent of its budget to the CP (even though the amount was over \$50,000) is as committed to the purposes and programs of the SBC as the small church giving 20 percent of its budget to the CP (amounting to \$25,000) is neither a sound judgment, a proper moral conclusion, nor justified by reason or logic.

Many churches require their deacons to tithe. In such situations, the person who makes \$10,000 and gives \$1,000 to the church is just as eligible for such deaconship as one who makes \$100,000 a year and gives \$10,000 to the church. There is perhaps no SBC church that has a requirement that anybody who gives a fixed amount to the church (for example, \$2,000) would be eligible to become a deacon. It seems inappropriate to use one criteria for judgment in individuals and an entirely different criteria for judging churches.

The Cooperative Program is not only the lifeline of our convention, its programs and agencies; it is the

"life" — the backbone — of most of them.

That which keeps our convention functioning, that which provides money to educate our pastors, that which provides funds to send and sustain home and foreign missionaries, and the proportional commitment of a church to support the SBC and its agencies is an appropriate matter in considering the leaders and officers of the SBC.

Owen Cooper, a retired industrialist in Yazoo City, is a past president of both the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

VBS registers 17,000 kids

NITEROI, Brazil — First Baptist Church of Niteroi attracted more than 17,000 children to its 1984 Vacation Bible School. Ranging in age from 3 to 16, the children crowded the church's facilities and 17 preaching points around the city.

Eighty church volunteers taught the children, 100 of whom professed faith in Christ during the five-day event.

The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

515 Mississippi Street
P.O. Box 530

Jackson, Miss. 39205

Don McGregor Editor
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial
Associate

Journal of
The Mississippi Baptist
Convention

Charles Pickering
President
Earl Kelly
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance.

Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Volume 108

Number 39

Mississippi Baptist Convention

149th SESSION

November 12-14, 1984

First Baptist Church
Jackson, Mississippi

Convention President
Charles Pickering

Suggested Order Of Business

Monday Afternoon

1:20	Prelude	Bobbie Butler
1:30	Convention Called to Order	Charles Pickering
1:35	Call to Worship	Jim Hess
	Congregational Praise	Julian Fagan
	Scripture	Raul Garcia
	Prayer	Starkville Singing
1:45	Message in Song	Seniors, First Baptist Church, Starkville, C.T. Roberts
1:55	Organization of Convention	Charles Pickering
	Recognition and Seating of Messengers	Robert Hanvey
	Report of Committee on Order of Business	Earl Craig, Jr.
	Welcome to Jackson	Lee Gordon
2:05	Congregational Praise	D. L. Lowrie
2:10	Bible Treasure	Joel Haire
2:30	Business Session	Joan Tyler
	Report of Committee on Committees	Powell Ogletree
	Report of Committee on Constitution and Bylaws	Billy Vaughn
	Presentation of 1985 Budget	Dan Hall
2:50	Congregational Praise	Richard Brogan
2:55	History of Choral Music in Mississippi	Earl Kelly
3:05	Mississippi Baptist Seminary	Sanctuary Choir of
3:15	Introduction of New Workers in State	First Baptist Church, Laurel
3:25	Message in Song	Charles Pickering
3:45	President's Address	Jack Cox
4:15	Benediction	

Monday Night

6:50	Prelude	Singing Churchmen, Handbells
7:00	Call to Worship	Dan Hall
	Congregational Praise	Arthur Leslie
	Scripture	Jeanette Phillips
	Prayer	D. L. Lowrie
7:10	Bible Treasure	T. T. Crabtree
7:30	"Planned Growth in Giving"	Charles Pickering
7:50	"Planned Growth in Giving" Testimony	Larry Kennedy
7:55	Recognition of Missionaries	
	Foreign	
8:00	Message in Song	Singing Churchmen
8:20	State Convention Program	Earl Kelly
9:00	Benediction	Harold Jones

Tuesday Morning

8:50	Prelude	Eva Hart
9:00	Call to Worship	Arnold Bridges
	Congregational Praise	Gayle Alexander
	Scripture	Ray Spears
	Prayer	Clint Nichols
9:10	Message in Song	D. L. Lowrie
9:20	Bible Treasure	
9:40	Business Presentation	
	Presentation of Resolutions	
	Election of Convention President	
10:00	Report of Christian Action Commission	
10:10	Congregational Praise	Paul Jones
10:15	Report of Committees	Don Nichols
	Nominations	Bartis Harper
	Time, Place, Preacher	Kermit McGregor
10:20	Business Session	Ed Gandy
	Report of Convention Board	Powell Ogletree
	Adoption of Budget	
	Miscellaneous Business	Douglas Bain, Jr.
10:40	Report from Board of Ministerial Education	

(Continued on page 5)

Foreign missionary in Mississippi to recruit preachers for field

Furloughing Southern Baptist missionary James Young of Yazoo City has been named to travel the state speaking to pastors about the possibility of answering a call to foreign missions.

Young, who plans to return to his work in Bangladesh next summer, will meet with as many preachers as he can to ask them if

they've ever considered an overseas ministry.

He is one of 18 furloughing missionaries being used as consultant assistants by the Foreign Mission Board's newly organized missionary enlistment department. Through conspicuous presence at pastors' gatherings and in personal meetings, the assistants will help identify pastors who could be general evangelists overseas and encouraging them to consider missionary service.

"Our view is everybody shouldn't be a missionary, but there are those

to whom God has given the missionary gift to operate with other spiritual gifts across cultural lines," said John Floyd, enlistment department director.

"We have people who evidently are equipped but not going," he said. "It may have been five or 10 years since seminary, since they've had any personal challenge to think about foreign missions. In some cases, it may have been never."

The missionary enlistment department was organized to keep up with
(Continued on page 4)

The Baptist Record

New SBC Building nears completion in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — A mid-January move-in date has been scheduled for the eight Southern Baptist organizations which will occupy a new building in Nashville, Tenn.

The seven-story, 170,000 square-foot structure was approved by messengers to the 1983 Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh. Groundbreaking was in September 1983.

Reginald M. McDonough, associate executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, sees the building "as a symbol of the growth Southern Baptists are experiencing through the convention's program of witness and ministry, Bold Mission Thrust."

The "serious overcrowding" in meeting rooms, storage space, and parking that has occurred as a byproduct of the rapid growth of the Southern Baptist Convention since the present building was constructed in 1963 will be eliminated in the new

building, McDonough pointed out, which will allow the organizations to more efficiently carry out the program assignments given them by messengers to the SBC meetings.

"But the greatest thing, I believe, will be the much better working relationship made possible by so many agencies being physically close together and being able to hold so many meetings at the building," he continued. The new building is beside the administrative building of the Baptist Sunday School Board and the Historical Commission, currently housed in the BSSB, will move into the new building.

While each organization will receive much needed space, McDonough said the Historical Commission, the Stewardship Commission and the Seminary External Education Division of the six Southern Baptist seminaries would benefit most dramatically by new facilities

because of their greater needs.

Organizations making the move in January include the Christian Life Commission, the Education Commission, the Executive Committee, the Seminary External Education Division, the Southern Baptist commission on the American Theological Seminary, the Southern Baptist Foundation and the Stewardship Commission.

The Stewardship Commission, headed by President A. R. Fagan, will utilize the space to help continue highly successful programs and carry a major load in an ambitious new program.

When the present SBC building was dedicated in 1963, it housed 40 employees. Now there are over 100 employees, some crammed into cubbyholes and pushed into hallways. The Executive Committee had 55 members in 1963 — the 1984-85 Executive Committee has 69 members.

Pastors' conference committee seeks no additional meeting

The committee appointed by Mississippi Baptist Convention President Charles Pickering to "consider the possibility of a state pastors' conference" will report to the convention when it meets later this month that the committee feels "it would be better to seek to work within the framework of what we already have, the state convention and the evangelism-Bible conference."

Gordon Sansing, pastor of First Church, Vicksburg, and chairman of the committee, told the *Baptist Record* last week that the committee feels that rather than coming to the place of having another meeting it

would be better to strengthen the convention program and the evangelism-Bible conference program and ask the planners of those two meetings to plan programs that would speak more directly to the needs of pastors.

Sansing said the committee uncovered needs on the part of pastors and is requesting that pastors' needs be spoken to.

The study of the possibility of a pastors' conference came about because of a motion made during last year's convention by David Gosslee, then pastor of Toxish Church, Pontotoc. His motion was that "our con-

vention president appoint a committee to consider the possibility of a state pastors' conference and that this committee take whatever action, if any, it feels appropriate to forming such a conference."

Gosslee was placed on the committee, and Sansing was appointed and named chairman. Others were Larry Fields, pastor of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo; Joe McKeever, pastor of First Church, Columbus; Ed McMillan, staff member at Mississippi College; Milton Koon, pastor of Gaston Church, Booneville; Bev Tin-

(Continued on page 4)

Prayer day planned Nov. 4 by women of Jones County

Helen Fling of Birmingham, Ala., the promotion associate in new areas for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, will be the speaker for the annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer Nov. 4 in Laurel.

In her position Mrs. Fling works in a liaison capacity between the WMU and the Home Mission Board.

The observance will be held at the West Laurel Church. It is co-sponsored each year by the Jones Association Woman's Missionary Union and the women of the National Baptist Convention of Southeast Mississippi.

Last year some 450 women attended.



The purpose of the World Day of Prayer is to provide a channel of fellowship and worship for the Baptist women of the 141 countries of the Baptist World Alliance, according to Del Scoper of Laurel, chairman of the planning committee for the program and for the reception that will follow the program. Mrs. Scoper, a member of First Church, Laurel, is district director for the WMU for the area.

Alma Barnes, president of the National Baptist Women of Southeast Mississippi, is co-chairman.

Others on the committee include Jane Winn, Baptist Women director for Jones Association WMU; Marjorie Williams, music coordinator; and Mildred Flowers, program format. The reception chairman is Ettie Godard, WMU director for the host church. Jean Williams is Jones associational WMU director.

The theme for the program will be

"We are the church — called to be one for God's Mission." Women from both Baptist conventions will participate on the program, which is produced by the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance. Others to appear on the program will include Richard Brogan, president of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, and Edwina Robinson, retired executive director of the Mississippi WMU.

Mrs. Fling has served as president of the Southern Baptist WMU and on the Executive Committee of the SBC. She has served also on the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance and as the treasurer of the North American Baptist Women's Union of the BWA.

She now serves on the board of directors of the American Bible Society. Prior to his retirement and subsequent death, her husband served as a pastor in Texas and in New York.

Library helps Africans learn as they minister

LIMURU, Kenya — Stephenson Mugacia can thank 16 Southern Baptist churches and individuals from seven states for pushing him and his fellow students another step ahead in their education at the Kenya Branch of the International Baptist Theological Seminary of Eastern Africa.

The churches and individuals — from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas — recently donated books to the growing library located at the Brackenhurst Baptist International Conference Center in Limuru, Kenya.

The seminary's 3,000-volume library, 70 percent donated by churches in the United States, still has a long way to go, but it's a gold mine of information to Mugacia, who eagerly reads everything he can.

Mugacia, a pastor, walks hours one way to his church and preaching point and devotes many more hours to his study under the direction of Southern

Baptist missionaries Vane Kirkpatrick, the seminary's director, and Sam Turner, associate director. Turner was formerly director of missions for the Mississippi Gulf Coast Association.

He's one of 10 students in the seminary's highest level, the certificate program, whom the missionaries guide through a carefully planned four-year curriculum.

About 625 other students are enrolled in three other levels — basic, Bible school and diploma.

"We can use all types of books to improve the depth and quality of our library to help students like Mugacia become the pastors they can be," said Turner.

Kirkpatrick and Turner seek to teach the pastors in the same setting as that of their ministries to avoid "education by extraction" — a phenomenon which takes place when you move a rural African out of his home area and away from ministry.

That often results in getting him out of touch with the realities of his ministry, crippling his future effectiveness, and educating him beyond the level of his people.

The seminary's approach works well because Kirkpatrick and Turner also work in developing rural African churches and have many opportunities to lead students in practical exercises in how to deal with problems of ministry in the African context.

And they see an ongoing benefit to the student, who maintains his family life and quality contact with his church members.

Last year, alone, the 10 certificate student pastors baptized more than 100 persons and had more than 40 awaiting baptism — learning while they ministered and ministering while they learned.

Pastors' conference

(Continued from page 3) nin, pastor of First Church, Meridian; Gerald Harris, pastor of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson; Wade Rogers, pastor of Hebron Church, Taylorsville; Odean Puckett, pastor of First Church, Natchez; Murry Alexander, layman of Greenville; J. Roy McComb, pastor of First Church, Columbia; Frank Gunn, pastor of First Church, Biloxi; and Harry Lucenay, pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

Pickering and Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, served as ex officio members.

Hogue elected California executive

FRESNO, Calif. (BP) — C. B. (Bill) Hogue, former Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board vice-president for evangelism, has been elected executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

Hogue, 56, has been pastor for the past two years of the Eastwood Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, following nine years at the HMB post.

He was elected Oct. 19 at a special meeting of the executive board of the California Convention held in Fresno where he was presented as the recommendation of the board's search committee. Between 40 and 50 names were submitted for the vacancy created by the retirement of Robert B. Hughes at the end of this year.

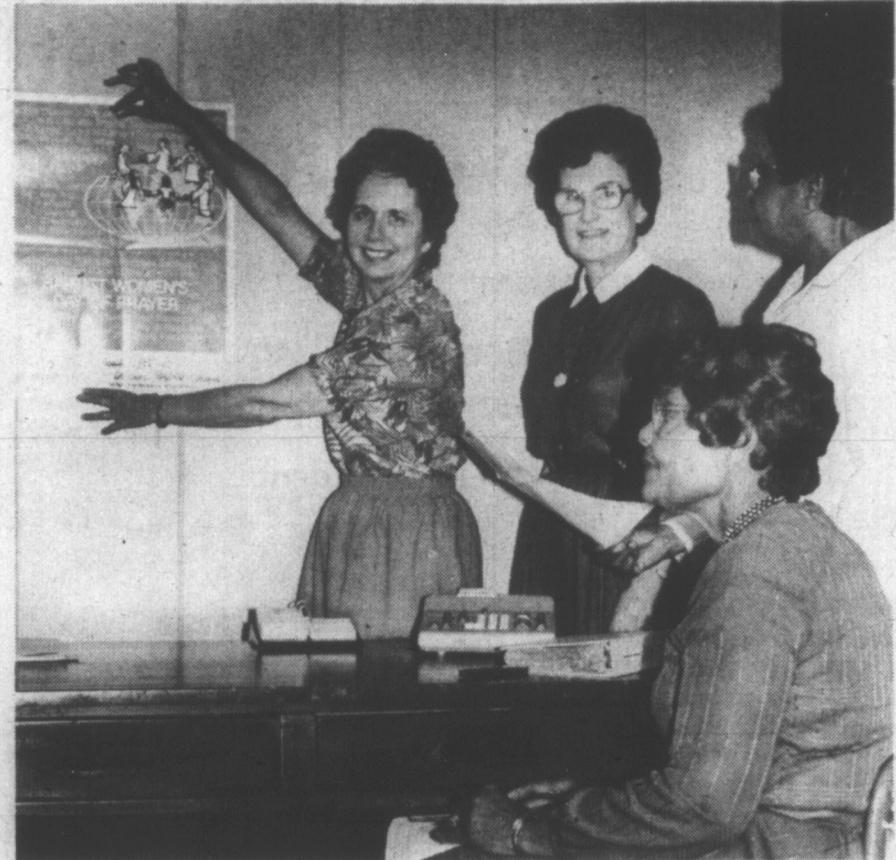
Hogue was born in Stanton, Texas, and graduated from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex.

He and his wife, the former Betty Jane Howard, have four sons; Robert, Randy, Rodney and Ronald. They have an adopted daughter, Jana Li. Three of the Hogue sons are pastors, two in Washington state and one in British Columbia, Canada.

The California Convention has a budget of more than \$10 million and includes more than 1,300 cooperating churches with nearly 400,000 members.

Our minds are lazier than our bodies — La Rochefoucauld.

You never can win an argument if you're having it with someone who doesn't understand the subject.



Planning for the annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer Nov. 4 in Laurel are, left to right, Mrs. Dell Scoper, chairman of the planning committee; Mildred Flowers, program format; Marjorie Williams, music; and (seated) Alma Barnes, co-chairman of the planning committee.

Foreign missionary recruits preachers in Mississippi

(Continued from page 3)

foreign missionaries' requests for co-workers to start churches. For next year, about half of the job requests from missionaries overseas are for general evangelists.

A former general evangelist to the Philippines, Floyd said his department is following a common biblical pattern of calling out the called. People throughout the Bible who recognized gifts in others identified them and encouraged their ministry,

he said.

Within the next five years, a representative of the enlistment department will sit down across from every pastor in the United States who is qualified for mission work and ask him to consider it, Floyd said.

"Sometimes there are preachers whom the Lord has been dealing with but who haven't contacted the Foreign Mission Board. Here they'll have a chance right there in front of them."

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Baptist Convention

(Continued from page 3)

10:50 Report from Baptist Foundation
 11:00 Congregational Praise
 11:05 Message in Song
 11:15 Sermon
 11:45 Benediction

Tuesday Afternoon

1:50 Prelude
 2:00 Call to Worship
 Congregational Praise
 Scripture
 Prayer
 2:10 Bible Treasure
 2:30 Election of Convention Officers
 First Vice-President
 Second Vice-President
 Recording Secretary
 Associate Recording Secretary
 2:45 Pastors Conference Study Committee Report
 2:55 Report of the Institutional Endowment Study Committee
 3:15 Report from Children's Village
 3:25 Congregational Praise
 3:30 Message in Song
 3:45 Sermon
 4:15 Benediction

Tuesday Night

6:50 Prelude
 Brass Ensemble, Jones County Junior College, Ellisville, David Young
 7:00 Call to Worship
 Congregational Praise
 Scripture
 Prayer
 7:10 Bible Treasure
 7:30 Congregational Praise
 7:35 Annuity Program
 7:55 Convention in Worship
 Message in Song
 First Baptist Church, Greenville, Byron Cutrer
 Sermon
 8:40 Benediction

Wednesday Morning

8:50 Prelude
 9:00 Call to Worship
 Congregational Praise
 Scripture
 Prayer
 9:10 Message in Song
 Ensemble, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson
 9:20 Bible Treasure
 9:40 Miscellaneous Business and Report of Resolutions Committee
 10:00 Congregational Praise
 10:05 Message in Song
 10:20 Sermon
 10:50 Memorial Service
 10:55 Message in Song
 11:10 Sermon
 11:40 Benediction

Order of Business Committee

Robert M. Hanvey, Chairman
 Gordon H. Sansing, Vice-Chairman
 Larry Kennedy, Secretary
 John Armistead
 J. W. Brister
 George McFadin

Convention Officers

Charles Pickering, President
 Ervin Brown, 1st Vice President
 J. C. Renfroe, 2nd Vice President
 J. Clark Hensley, Recording Secretary
 Paul Harwood, Associate Recording Secretary
 Acccompanists
 Eva Hart, Pianist
 Bobbie Butler, Organist

Thursday, November 1, 1984

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Jackson motels and hotels

Best Western Metro Inn — 160 rooms, I-20, Exit 15-N. Box 16275, 39204, tel. (601) 355-7483. Covered pool and hot tub, garden atrium. Sgl. \$32-\$38. Dbl. \$38-\$43.

Bill Will Motel — 31 rooms, U.S. Hwy 80 39056, 1 block from I-20, Exit 13, tel. (601) 924-5313, color TV, AM/FM radios, phones, restaurant, pool. Rates on request, MC, VISA, Amex.

Days Inn — 122 rooms, I-20 at Hwy 49 & 80 E. 39208, tel. (601) 939-8200, color TV, pool, restaurant, gift shop, gasoline, close to downtown and Coliseum. Sgl. \$25-\$30, dbl. \$30-\$35, MC, VISA, Amex.

Days Inn North — 150 rooms, I-55 North & Briarwood Dr., 39211, tel. 1-800-241-3400, (601) 957-1741, color TV, pool, gift shop, gasoline, near Barnett Reservoir, sgl. \$27-\$32, dbl. \$32-\$37, MC, VISA, Amex, Diners Club.

Holiday Inn Downtown — 359 rooms, 200 E. Amite St., Box 22677, 39205, tel. (601) 969-5100, 4 deluxe executive suites. Sgl. \$50-\$60, dbl. \$57-\$70, MC, VISA, Amex, DC. Paul S. Hamilton, gen. mgr.

Holiday Inn - Medical Center — 208 rooms, 2375 N. State St. 39202, tel. (601) 948-8650, color TV, restaurant, pool. MC, VISA, Amex, DC, CB.

Holiday Inn-North — 254 rooms, I-55 N. Frontage Rd., 39206, tel. (601) 366-9411. Restaurant, pool, Amex, MC, VISA, CB, DC.

Holiday Inn Southwest — 289 rooms, 2649 Hwy 80 W. at Ellis, 39204, (I-20 W. Exit 15N), tel. (601) 355-3472, Crossroad's Dining Room, game room, pool. 18 tree-shaded acres. Rates on request. Major credit cards accepted.

Jacksonian Inn — 100 rooms, I-55 N. at Northside Dr. 39206, exit 35, tel. (601) 981-2345, famous LeFleur's Restaurant, pool, putting green, playground, Sgl. \$32-\$33, King size & dbl. \$39-\$41, Suites to \$75. Kids stay free. Holiday Rent-A-Car office in lobby.

La Quinta Inn — 101 rooms, 150 Angle St. at I-20 & Terry Rd. 39204, tel. (601) 373-6110, tel. Quick toll free res., 800-531-5900, pool, 24-hour restaurant adjacent, family & commercial rates. Meeting rooms, Color TV, AM-FM radios, cable TV.

Passport Inn — 152 rooms, 5035 I-55 N. 39236, tel. (601) 982-1011, restaurant, pool, reasonable rates. Call toll-free 1-800-238-6161. MC, VISA,

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Amex, DC.

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Ramada Inn Metro — 225 rooms, I-20 at Ellis Ave. 39204, tel (601) 944-1150, color TV, pool, restaurant, MC, VISA, Amex, DC, CB, rates on request.

Rodeway Inn — 99 rooms, 3720 I-55 North, 39211, tel. (601) 982-1122, color TV, restaurant, pool, in room whirlpool and steam baths, Sgl. \$60, family \$66. MC, VISA, Amex, DC, Torch, CB, Travelodge, Trusthouse.

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Sheraton Regency/Convention Center — 232 rooms, 750 N. State St., 39201, tel (601) 948-8605. Near downtown. Famous Bobby G's Restaurant. Sgl. \$45-\$54, Dbl. \$51-\$60; Suites \$125-\$225.

Travelodge, Airport — 50 rooms, Thompson Field 39208, inside airport terminal, tel. (601) 939-4011, toll free 800-255-3050, restaurant, Sgl. \$45, dbl. \$60, family \$66. MC, VISA, Amex, DC, Torch, CB, Travelodge, Trusthouse.

Italian Baptists discuss terrorists

SANTA SEVERA — Italian Baptists threaded their way carefully through controversial issues to maintain a mandate for their department of evangelism and approve ongoing peace efforts, but delayed action on a proposed agreement with the government which outlined religious rights.

The Baptist Union (UCEBI) biennial assembly reelected Saverio Guarna as secretary of the department of evangelism and determined that "the momentum from previous peace efforts" should not be lost.

The Baptists followed an action of

Italian Waldensians in their earlier assembly by discussing a communication from two former terrorist activists who are now serving prison sentences. The assembly demonstrated its solidarity with their plea for recognition that churches have failed to influence society to the extent that youth are dissuaded from identifying with terrorist elements.

The 18-point "progetto di intesa" on church-state questions was referred to June 1985, when a special assembly will be called to consider this and a new Union constitution.

Piano, organ workshop at N.O.

NEW ORLEANS — A two-day Piano and Organ Workshop will be held Nov. 9-10 at New Orleans Seminary.

Jerry Aultman, and Linda Shipley, all of the music faculty at New Orleans Seminary.

The workshop will help pianists and organists sharpen their skills in church music. Clinicians include Martha Kirkland of the Baptist Sunday School Board; and Al Washburn, 70126-9988.

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Southwestern board rejects silencing of president

By Jim Jones

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)—Trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, have tabled a motion which would have instructed seminary President Russell Dilday Jr. to stay out of denominational politics.

Tabling of the motion was seen by seminary leaders as a vote of confidence for Dilday, even those who adamantly opposed Dilday's involvement in denominational controversy praised his leadership at the seminary and said they would continue to back him on other seminary matters.

An unnamed trustee said about seven of the 30 trustees favored the motion.

The motion came in the second of two rare executive sessions in which the controversy of Dilday's prominent role in what had been called a Baptist holy war, was sharply debated between the fundamentalists and so-called moderates among the trustees. The debate apparently occurred in a closed door session which took up most of the Oct. 16 afternoon trustee meeting.

The trustees reportedly agreed not to discuss the closed meeting with reporters.

In the session, Dilday repeated charges which he has made in speeches and in writing; namely that fundamentalist forces are attempting to dominate the denomination and are a threat to the Baptist seminaries and colleges.

After Dilday's comments, a trustee who asked not to be named told the *Fort Smith Star-Telegram*, James T. Draper Jr., new seminary trustee who is immediate past president of the SBC, told fellow trustees he was deeply hurt by Dilday's accusations. Draper was seen as the candidate of the fundamentalist faction when he won the presidency. He said he tried to be fair to all during his two years as president.

Draper said in an interview he is concerned about Dilday's role. "I think he's (Dilday) gotten into an area of controversy and polarization that we don't need. I'm not critical of his courage or right to speak out," said Draper, pastor of First Baptist, Euless, Texas. "I just regret the inclusion of his voice to be a polarizing factor...."

Dilday would not give any details about the exchanges which took place during the two executive sessions which came during the regular open meetings of the trustees, but he acknowledged there were differences stated in both closed meetings: "We had a very open and clear expression of concern."

Dilday, along with other Southern Baptist seminary and agency heads, have been attacking what they claim is an attempt by fundamentalists to take over the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the annual Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo., last June, Dilday, in a convention sermon, attacked the fundamen-

talists, calling them proud brokers of power. Later Roy L. Honeycutt, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., stirred emotions when he called for holy war against the fundamentalist political faction in the SBC.

The last six years fundamentalist leaders have successfully sought to elect their own candidates to the SBC presidency. The latest, Charles F. Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, was installed as president during the Kansas City meeting.

Dilday said one purpose of the Tuesday trustee meeting was to express concern the seminary is one of the "targets" of fundamentalist leaders after they cited a trend toward liberalism in certain SBC-connected colleges and seminaries.

He said most trustees agree, "The seminary is right in the middle of this and the fundamentalist movement is indeed aimed at the educational institutions including the seminaries. And that's where our concern is."

Some seminary leaders fear a fundamentalist dominated Convention might exact reprisals against professors viewed as too liberal and/or cut school funding to a school viewed as having strayed too far from the conservative Baptist viewpoint.

Ralph Pulley, a Dallas layman on the seminary board, made the motion to instruct Dilday to stay out of denominational politics, a trustee said. Pulley is one of three seminary trustees who are members of the First Baptist Church, Dallas, where W. A. Criswell is pastor. Criswell is seen by many as being the behind the scenes central figure of the fundamentalist movement. One of Criswell's associates at First Baptist,

'Prof' Johnson receives 1984 Mullins award

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—R. Inman Johnson, who taught thousands of ministers in music and speech during a 45-year career at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., has received the 1984 E. Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award.

The Mullins Award, presented 21 times since 1963, is the highest honor Southern seminary can bestow on an individual, honoring outstanding contributions to Baptist life.

Johnson, 89, is the oldest living retired member of the Southern seminary faculty. His affiliation with the seminary stretches back into the nineteenth century, when he lived in student housing as the son of a seminary student.

Past recipients of the Mullins award include Sydnor Stealy, Herschel Hobbs, C. Oscar Johnson, Gaines S. Dobbins, Duke K. McCall, Louie D. Newton, Clifton J. Allen, James L. Sullivan, Albert McClellan, Porter Routh, Owen Cooper, and Grady Cothen.

Paige Patterson, who is also president of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, spearheaded the fundamentalist movement in the SBC.

Another trustee, John McKay, a Ft. Worth music evangelist, says he is a fundamentalist but not aligned with any group. He has a great admiration for Dilday but doesn't like his role in the Baptist controversy. "I don't feel like a person receiving a salary like Dilday's from the denomination should choose sides," he said.

Afterwards, even those who opposed Dilday's involvement in the controversy praised his leadership at the seminary and said they would continue to back him in seminary matters. McKay said, "We agreed to disagree. I love Dr. Dilday and I think he has done a marvelous job. I hate to see him drag the seminary into this fight. I don't think the seminary will get anything out of this except a bloody nose."

Draper said he agreed Dilday had some responsibility to speak as a seminary leader but he would like Dilday's statements to be less divisive. "I'd like him to speak out and invite all the people to come to the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas next year instead of saying 'there are the bad guys and let's get rid of them.'"

The trustees also announced a five-year program to raise \$25 million has gone over the top and adopted a new Upward-90 program goal of raising another \$50 million for the seminary by 1990.

Jones is religion editor of the Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram.

Southern Seminary to host reunion during convention

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—Alumni and friends of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will gather for their annual fall reunion November 13 during the meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The reunion will be at 12:30 p.m. at Galloway Memorial Methodist Church. Featured speaker will be Milburn Price, Dean, School of Church Music at Southern Seminary.

Tickets and further information may be obtained from David Grant, Broadmoor Baptist Church, 767 E. Northside Drive, Jackson, MS 39206.

Southwestern luncheon Nov. 13

The Southwestern Seminary alumni gathering in Mississippi is to take place at noon on Nov. 13, during the meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The luncheon will be at the Downtown Holiday Inn, Jackson. The cost is \$6.50. F. B. Huey will be the speaker.

Nicaraguan Baptist reported kidnapped

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (BP)—A group of about 60 armed men killed one person and kidnapped five others, including Baptist youth leader Marcia Chamorro, on Oct. 5, according to Nicaraguan Baptist sources.

The report said "contra" forces fighting the Marxist Sandinista government of Nicaragua stopped a vehicle carrying a group of volunteer government teachers heading toward Waslala, a town 149 miles northeast of Managua in the Jinotega region. They shot one teacher to death and seized five others, including 18-year-old Chamorro, the report said. Her fate and that of the others remains unknown.

The incident, originally reported by a Southern Baptist teacher working at the Baptist seminary in Managua, was confirmed Oct. 24 by Tomas Tellez, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of Nicaragua, and Jairo Gutierrez, pastor of the Managua church where Chamorro is a youth leader and children's teacher.

Tellez said it was the first time a Baptist church member had been kidnapped, but he claimed "hundreds" of other non-military people working with the government have been kidnapped or killed by contras. The term "contra" refers to a variety of Nicaraguan rebel groups, most of which are reported receiving aid from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency in their efforts to oust the current Sandinista regime.

Last December Baptist health worker Ana Julia Lopez, 22, was reportedly murdered by contras in Rio Blanco, another Nicaraguan

town.

No one knows whether Chamorro and the other teachers are still alive, Tellez said. Nicaraguan army sources have rumored they were taken to Honduras where contra forces operate numerous base camps, but no definite information has been received. Tellez said people in the Baptist convention are praying for her.

Southern Baptists have had no missionaries in Nicaragua since 1982 but a bookstore ministry started by Southern Baptist missionaries continues, with books and Bibles being supplied through the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas. The Foreign Mission Board also has continued to provide relief aid when requested. The Southern Baptist seminary teacher who sent word about the kidnapping is not sponsored by the board, but has indicated a desire to be a Mission Service Corps volunteer.

Anthem service

NASHVILLE—Anthem Service, the Baptist Book Store discount service for ministers of music, is offering a greatly expanded service and a toll-free telephone number.

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An understanding of and commitment to off campus programs and non-traditional inverted degrees.

A doctoral degree in adult education, higher education, administration, or a subject area in which courses are offered in Lubbock. Experience in baccalaureate level college teaching and/or administration.

Application process:

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Materials should be sent by December 1 to:

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Wayland Baptist University

1900 West 7th

Plainview, TX 79072

Albert Bean added to seminary faculty

Kansas City, Mo. — Trustees of Midwestern Seminary named a Midwestern alumnus to a faculty position and handled routine business during their semi-annual meeting this month.

Trustees elected Albert Bean, pastor of Calvary Church, Columbia, Mo., to be associate professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, effective Jan. 1.

Bean, 46, is a 1972 Midwestern graduate. Before going to the Calvary Church in 1979, he was Baptist Chair of Bible instructor at the University of Missouri, Columbia, for three years.

Earlier he was an instructor and a Garrett Fellow in Old Testament at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. While in Louisville, he was pastor of Highland Park Second Baptist Church and instructor of Old Testament theology at Simmons Universi-

ty there.

"Al Bean combines those qualities which are essential for an effective faculty person," commented Milton Ferguson, seminary president. "He is a committed, vibrant Christian believer and a witness for Jesus Christ. He has a strong sense of calling to the ministry of teaching and proclaiming God's Word. He is intellectually gifted and has demonstrated his capacity for sound and responsible scholarship."

Bean holds the degrees of doctor of philosophy from Southern Seminary; master of divinity from Midwestern; and bachelor of arts from the University of Missouri, Kansas City.

In other business, trustees received a report indicating a fall student enrollment of 578 as of Oct. 1. Enrollment at the same time in fall 1983 was 573 students.

Robbery fails to dampen Georgia volunteers

LAGRANGE, Ga. (BP) — Georgia Baptist volunteers robbed while in Jamaica last July aren't letting that dampen their enthusiasm for missions.

Not only is the Franklin Road Baptist Church, LaGrange, planning to send another team to Jamaica next summer, but the members who were robbed have decided to donate refunds for their accommodations in Jamaica to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

Frank Sledge, pastor of the church, his wife, Nancy, and four other women went to Jamaica to help with Vacation Bible Schools but returned home early after their villa was invaded by armed robbers, who shot the guard and beat down the door. Three men robbed the Sledges and two of the women at gunpoint before a fourth man outside warned them to flee. One of the women already has said she wants to return to Jamaica in 1985.

The Franklin Road team and another team from LaGrange who

returned home with them were part of 449 volunteers who went to Jamaica for the largest single volunteer project ever sponsored by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The remaining teams held dental clinics, helped lead Vacation Bible Schools attended by more than 16,000 children and led evangelistic services. More than 1,500 people made professions of faith during the week.

After a second robbery attempt that week, the Jamaican Ministry of Tourism placed extra guards at the remaining volunteers' villas. The minister of tourism personally contacted James Cecil, the Foreign Mission Board's coordinator for the project, and assured him they would provide extra security for any future volunteer groups.

The Foreign Mission Board plans to continue the project, which was started seven years ago by Baptist churches in Florida, and possibly expand it to include other ministries requested by Jamaican Baptists.

Jewish groups in U.S. oppose new Orthodox rules

NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP)—A new proposal by Orthodox groups in Israel which would require that conversions to Judaism be carried out according to ancient Jewish law is being strongly opposed by major Reformed and Conservative Jewish groups in the U.S.

At the present time all Jews are granted Israeli citizenship whether they are born Jews or converted into Judaism. The Orthodox Jews in Israel who dominate the interpretation of the religious laws are seeking to change this. They hold that conversions conducted by Reformed and Conservative rabbis are not in con-

formity with the ancient Jewish law, called Halakha. Orthodox rabbis do not even recognize weddings or other religious rituals conducted by Conservative and Reform rabbis.

The vast majority of the six million Jews in the U.S. would be insulted by the measure requiring Orthodox conversion stated Theodore Mann, president of the American Jewish Congress. He said it would also reduce financial support from American Jews for Israel.

"The voluntary principle works from the individual outward to the group." — J. B. Gambrell

Intercessory prayer director named

ATLANTA (BP) — Phillip Eugene Bruce of Conyers, Ga., has been named national director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Intercessory Prayer Line Ministry.

Before coming to this position Bruce was a youth director at Robinhood Road Baptist church in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Bruce will head the prayer line ministry as a Mission Service Corps volunteer.

The "prayer line" is a national incoming WATS telephone line which enables Baptists to call the HMB toll-free to learn of home mission needs and requests for prayer, and for missionaries of the board to call to request prayer for their work and concerns.

The nation-wide telephone number for the prayer line is 1-800-554-PRAY, or 1-800-282-SEEK for calls within the state of Georgia.

Thursday, November 1, 1984

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Largest Cooperative Program year falls short of budget

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Gifts to the national Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention increased by more than \$6.5 million during 1983-84. The 6.39 percent hike over 1982-83 was more than double the national inflation rate of approximately 3 percent.

However, receipts of \$108,835,732 did not meet the 1983-84 basic budget of \$114.5 million, which is divided among 19 agencies and seminaries of the convention. No funds were available for the capital needs (\$3,340,385) and challenge (\$7,159,615) parts of the budget.

The capital needs projects will be carried over to the 1984-85 budget. That will increase that budget to \$133,340,385, including a basic operating budget of \$118 million.

Voluntarily contributions from the 37 Southern Baptist state conventions continued the trend of recent years as the conventions from the southern states provided most of the money while newer state conventions across the North and West were the percentage increase leaders over the previous years.

Alabama and Mississippi were the only states in the top 10 in both dollar giving and percentage increase. Alabama was fifth in giving (\$7,379,168) and 10th in increase (8.20). Mississippi ranked ninth in giving (\$5,557,832) and seventh in increase (9.83 percent).

Texas was the leading dollar contributor (\$19,191,992) and Hawaii was the percentage increase leader (32.15).

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE!

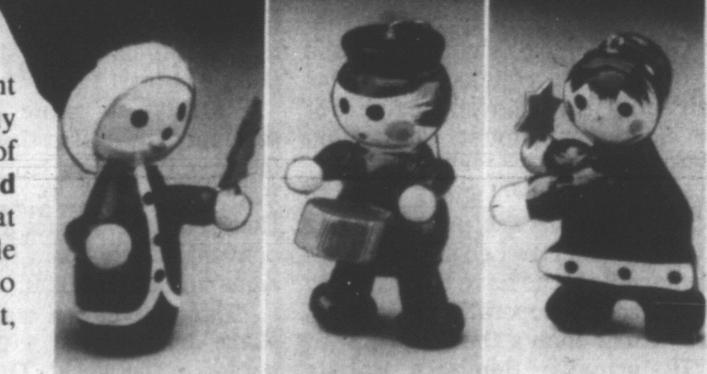
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This original Pre-Christmas ad must accompany your request. Copies or photostats are not acceptable.

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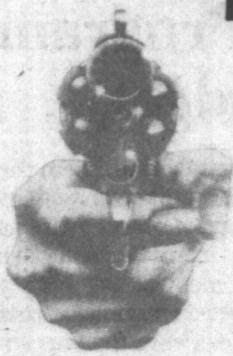
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Mail this original printed ad together with your name and address and \$3.77 for each set. Add only \$2 shipping and handling no matter how many sets you are requesting. (New York residents add sales tax.) Mail promptly and we guarantee earliest shipment for holiday season. Mail to: Abernathy & Closter, Christmas Ornament Offer, Dept. 137-10, Box 1789, Hicksville, NY 11802.

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You followed a pattern that goes with drug addiction or alcoholism in that you sought geographical escape. Unfortunately, we often take our problems with us wherever we go, and we also find the world offers little solace for our inward pain.

I'm glad to know that you are holding firmly to your conviction about

Christ and the salvation he offers, and I pray you will find, increasingly, that there are spiritual answers to your problems.

You also need support from others, like yourself, who have problems relating to chemical dependency. I urge you to look into your local Alcoholics Anonymous groups and become involved in that organization.

You wrote about your condition and reflected a lot of feelings—some which you may not have dealt with adequately. This, along with your statement that you are still using some chemicals suggests a need for professional counseling. I recommend that you contact the Mississippi Baptist Chemical Dependency Center for assistance. You may call 968-1102 and persons there would be glad to talk with you.

Missions, not theology, is unifying force, panel says

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Attempts to enforce a uniform theology on Southern Baptists will lead only to a weakening of Bold Mission Thrust, according to a panel of Baptist educators.

Speaking to a packed Alumni Chapel audience at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, four Southern Seminary professors — Bill Leonard, Ken Chafin, Larry McSwain and President Roy L. Honeycutt — joined Glenn Hilburn, chairman of the department of religion at Baylor University in a forum on the future of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Looking for theological ways to define the SBC is useless, according to church historian Leonard, because Southern Baptists have traditionally united around cooperative mission efforts rather than a theology.

"Historically, Southern Baptists have not had just a diverse theology; they have had contradictory theologies. Calvinism, Arminianism and Landmarkism all reflect contradictory views of the church, free will and conversion — and all have been held by Southern Baptists," explained Leonard. "So when you look for theological ways to define the SBC, you're doomed already."

"What really faces us is the fate that every other denomination in America has fought. It isn't liberalism or fundamentalism that destroyed them, but the conflict between the two," McSwain said.

Panel members believe the only way to resolve the crisis within the convention is by a return to a sense

of unity in diversity.

Pleading for a return to an open convention, Honeycutt urged all Southern Baptists to be accepting of diverse views within the denomination.

"We are fundamentally a conservative body, and what I'm pleading for is that we be free to be what we are without external control," Honeycutt said. "Can we not acknowledge that, though we differ in interpretation, we can share a larger unity in Christ?"

Chafin, who came to Southern seminary this fall as Carl Bates Professor of Preaching from South Main Baptist Church, Houston, echoed Honeycutt's appeal for a return to the convention's historic focus on missions and evangelism.

"This convention was formed to share Jesus Christ with every lost person in the world. That's the only thing that will bring us back together — if we rediscover that," Chafin said.

Carey alumni breakfast Nov. 13

The William Carey College Alumni Association will serve a complimentary breakfast to Carey Alumni during the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The breakfast will be held at 7:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13 in the small dining room of First Baptist Church in Jackson.

For more information contact Joyce Barnett, alumni director, at 582-5051, extension 247.

Letters to the Editor

In Dad's memory

Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to honor the memory of my Dad, William Minor Crowell.

As I think back there were so many things in various ways that my Dad taught me.

Among those that stand out most in my mind is that he taught me to respect authority: at school, on the bus, at home, in church, and in life in general. He taught me to tell the truth, to accept responsibility for my actions, and to be honest.

He taught me to be considerate of other people's rights and feelings. He taught me to work. He taught me in so many ways to be "thankful." He rejoiced when I was saved. He was at church when I was baptized.

No one is perfect and flattery helps no one.

But the thing that lives in my memory more than anything else about Dad is his prayers and his love for us. He prayed for us and loved us.

At a WIN (Witness Involvement Now) School at our home church of Murphy Creek during the last days of November 1973, Dad gave testimony that he knew he was saved. He had assurance the same day he was baptized (in the 1920's).

Grady D. Crowell
Quitman
Director of missions
Clarke Association

Selective killing — collective killing

No one has the right to decree the death of an innocent person. Those who would limit the right to life to certain ones are goosestepping to maniacal selecting killing, then collective killing.

To love someone is to help him to receive, enjoy, and keep his rights so long as he himself respects the rights of others. The sanctity of life, the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness must be protected at all costs. Patrick Henry: "Give me liberty or give me death!" "The love of liberty is the love of others; the love of power is the love of ourselves." — William Hazlitt. God loves and yearns for every human being more deeply than human words or thoughts or feelings could ever grasp. "... Love the brotherhood... Honor all men... Love your enemies..." The Holy Bible commands us. Therefore, all friends and all enemies (everybody) are to be loved and honored. How can one love, how can one honor a human being by killing it.

Although "mercy killing" may sound a little better, There is no way to refine murder — whether it is abortion, infanticide, homicide, euthanasia. God alone is the judge of the span of any life. Quacks and cowards who break their Hippocratic Oath for quick profit, convenience and expediency advise and urge abortions heedlessly and needlessly: Cherchez la monnaie (look for the money). Abortions of 4,000 fetuses (human babies) are permitted in the United States every day. "The land of the free and the home of the brave," we say and murder — by 1,460,000 babies a year — our future genera-

tion. (Our nation will soon be old: old as sin itself). Yet nobody hollers, "Holocaust!" (We sit on our hands and wonder that, despite the abortions of so many "Unwanted" children, child abuse has increased every year since abortions were legalized. Did we really expect otherwise?)

Kill the innocent and helpless and guess who will be next.

Mrs. William T. Myers, Sr.
Hattiesburg

The inerrancy question

Editor:

I was shocked to read in your cover story on Dr. Frank Stagg that he said of the question of the inerrance, "the use of the word is not correct. It is most unfortunate and destructive."

I am a retired Baptist pastor, having served Baptist churches for 42 years. I am a graduate of Mississippi College, where I majored in Bible, and a graduate of the seminary in New Orleans. I pastored churches and served as associational missionary in Mississippi. I organized two churches in that state, one of which is the Parkway Baptist Church in Natchez. I have never pastored a church that gave less than 10 percent to the Cooperative Program. The last church I pastored 12 1/2 years gave 13 percent to the Cooperative Program.

I love my denomination and grieve at the division in it now. But I believe that we must deal with this problem of liberalism or we will go the way of other denominations that have gone down the road of defeat and deterioration. The heart of our faith is an infallible, inerrant Bible; and anyone, regardless of who he is, who would lessen our appreciation of the Bible as the Word of God is one that does not deserve our praise.

Ray Megginson
Semmes, Ala.

New England Baptists

Editor:

Screven Memorial Baptist Church, Portsmouth, N. H., the first Southern Baptist Church in New England, is trying to locate all former members for a 25th Anniversary Celebration to be held in July 1985. If anyone knows the names and addresses of former members who have been at the church in the past 25 years, please notify Screven Memorial Baptist Church, 397 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, N. H. 03801, phone (603) 436-8623.

Your help in this search will be greatly appreciated.

Jane Walker, Chairman
25th Anniversary Committee

A Christian lady

Editor:

The world is a sadder place today because Mrs. T. R. Coulter (Mildred Stone) is no longer with us. She was found this morning lying on her side with a beautiful smile on her face, showing no signs of suffering. She went to sleep in this world but, I'm sure, awoke in a better world.

Mrs. Coulter was that rare jewel, a woman adorned with good works. In the 40 years in which I'd known her,

I never heard her utter a single word of gossip, of complaint, or for anger. She looked only for the good in people.

You always knew that you could talk to her; and no matter what you told her, it would go no further. She would pray with you, and you would feel closer to the Lord.

Although she never bore a child, she was like a mother to hundreds of us who were touched by her as we grew up. A spinster for many years, she showered all of her love upon us youngsters who passed through her Sunday School classes. Once you had been touched by this beautiful lady, you could never be the same again.

Upon one Mother's Day in our church (Eastview Baptist), our pastor asked that if your mother was not present, would you please go to the person present who had been most like your own mother to you. Immediately a line formed around "Missum," as she was lovingly called by her "children." She did so much for so many.

Surely great will be her reward as she joins her late husband, T. R. Coulter Sr, in that beautiful mansion which the Lord has made ready for her.

Ann Hawkins
Laurel

Homes for elderly

Editor:

My efforts are nonprofit. I have been concerned about the lack of transitional housing (residences) for our Christian elderly. It seems that others are also. Some have expressed it in the Baptist Record, AARP publication, 50 Plus, Aging, and I am sure in many more. Our Baptist Home Life magazine for January 1984 called it to our attention that "Baptists lag behind other denominations in building housing for the elderly."

It is possible for Mississippi Baptists to place a transitional residential center in each of our 75 associations. Our Christian elderly do not want to relocate too far from their familiar associations and families.

A writer with concern wrote, "I am a believer in the philosophy that nothing happens unless we make it happen." He said newly patented low-cost building technologies are available and ready to use. "All that is needed is for those of us who possess financial skills to come forward and give a helping hand in unlocking the public and private financial doors."

I hope at least one person from each association will contact me at 310 Aston Ave., McComb, Miss. 39648 — phone 249-2043.

Stan Murrell
McComb

I think Baptists will not want to try the public doors. — Editor.

Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you (Matt. 7:7). The power of God is mighty and unlimited. His source of help will truly open new doors of life for all who come to him and ask his will in the directing of their lives. This is the loving power house of God. Ask for his guidance today. — Lena Scott Price.

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mc williams

"Sharp mind, warm heart"

"Watching students grow — that is the greatest reward of teaching," said Penrose St. Amant. "Good students who really work don't know how much they mean to a teacher!"

His first teaching job began in 1942 at Hannibal-LaGrange College in Missouri — professor of religion at \$133 a month for nine months of the year. Since 1944 he has been on the faculty of three Baptist seminaries, New Orleans, Southern, and International (in Switzerland), and has lectured at Southwestern and Golden Gate. Currently he is senior professor of church history at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Tree Tops, his home near Bay St. Louis, has been a summer oasis for him and his wife, Jessie, and they plan to make it headquarters after he retires. "This part of Mississippi reminds me of Louisiana," he told me. And of Gonzalez, where he was born. His mother's forebears were true Acadians who migrated from Canada. "I'm proud to be a Cajun," he said. "It's not a slur to a Cajun to be called that." His father's ancestors were French French, directly from France.

"My mother grew up as a Catholic and my father not much of anything. They were married in a Catholic church." But as the professor pointed out, "Give a person a Bible and they are liable to become a Baptist." Mrs. St. Amant read the Bible, became a Baptist, and began playing the piano and organ in a Baptist church. Her husband read the Bible he had given her, joined a Baptist church, and became a lay preacher, as well as president of the bank in Gonzalez.

By the time Penrose was 27 he possessed four degrees — B.A. from Louisiana College; M.S. from LSU; Th.M and Th.D. from New Orleans Seminary. Three years later, Nov. 21, 1945, he married Jessie Louise Davis, a Tennesseean with a degree from Blue Mountain College. He had met her in New Orleans, where she was secretary to the head of the Baptist hospital, Lewis J. Bristow. (Lewis was the father of Gwen Bristow, novelist.) By then he was teaching at New Orleans Seminary.

His desire to seek a broader knowledge of church history and at the same time to earn a doctor of philosophy degree and immerse himself in the European culture led to the University of Edinburgh in 1952. There he studied with J. H. S. Burleigh, authority in history of the ancient church.

During his first dinner at the home of John Baillie, principal of New College, he began collecting information for his dissertation, and talking with his professor about it. "The secret of getting research done for a doctoral degree," he explained to me, is this: "First, choose a subject in which the sources will be available. Second,

choose a subject you will be interested in, and thus have the motivation to finish. Third, don't get into something that is too complicated and that you can never finish. Fourth, remember that your major professor is a key, and needs to be someone you can be congenial with. The whole degree can boil down to your relationship with this professor."

He did, of course, finish his research and a few years later, in 1959, accepted the invitation to teach church history at Southern Seminary. "Jessie didn't want to leave our New Orleans home!" It was one of the most beautiful in the French Quarter. "But we could not really let a house stand in the way of doing God's work." This step also led to his becoming dean of the School of Theology at Southern.

However, teaching was his first love, and he agreed in 1971 to go to Rueschlikon, Switzerland, to teach at the International Baptist Seminary. Then immediately he was asked to be the seminary president. "And I was right back into administration." He added — "Yet we could not say moving to Zurich was a sacrifice! The president's home overlooks Lake Zurich and one of the most beautiful views in the world."

"The International Seminary is a unifying point for European Baptists," he said. "It is a crucial institution for them. Perhaps half of the Baptist leaders of Europe were graduated from this seminary."

While he was president, he said, he tried "to relate the seminary to the Baptist life of Europe and to the European culture. "I used my own resources as a Southern Baptist and yet didn't try to turn it into a Southern Baptist school."

Since 1977 he and Jessie have been back in Louisville, where he has taught church history and, as throughout his career, he has continued to do a great deal of writing.

Because of their frequent traveling and his preaching engagements in many churches, they have retained membership in the Baptist church in Rueschlikon, where Emanuel Wieser and his wife, Ilse, are co-pastors.

Last June, when he delivered the Hester Lectures at Daytona Beach to the Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools, he mentioned two teachers at Louisiana College he remembers with especial gratitude — W. P. Carson and Edgar O. Wood.

Carson he called a professor of English extraordinary. "He was what he was — a man without guile. This one professor's impact was the result of his evident academic competence plus a personal concern for his students. He didn't play games with us so that we would 'like' him. He demanded our very best. But his demands were combined with the sense that he really cared about what

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"Music Machine" at Northpark

"The Music Machine," a family musical, is being presented by the children's choir of Trace Ridge Church, Jackson, on Saturday, Nov. 3 at Northpark Mall, 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 4, at Trace Ridge Church, 6 p.m. "The Music Machine" is an adventure of two children in the Land of Love, Agapeland. The conductor, who operates the Music Machine, adds to the children's fun and excitement by presenting tunes which come to life before their eyes in choreographed sketches.

Stamps give global dimension

By Johnni Johnson Scofield

RUESCHLIKON—Whether at an international gathering such as the European Baptist Federation Congress in Hamburg last August, or with guests from around the world who visit his home here, a Swiss professor adds a global dimension with his thematic collection of Baptist stamps.

Claus Meister teaches Greek and New Testament Backgrounds at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Rueschlikon, where he became a member of the faculty in 1949, the year the seminary opened. He became a stamp collector at age six, and now has a collection from more than thirty countries of the world which includes subjects as varied as music composers, Swiss air mail, and religious freedom. Now he

happened to us."

Wood, a Baptist minister, taught psychology and philosophy and directed forensic activities. "He transmitted the difference between evidence and raw opinion and the importance of rhetoric. Through him I saw that a teacher can be a friend to students without losing their respect if he or she is secure as a scholar. Wood was a gentle and good man, from whom encouragement came amid discouragement."

Gabriel Marcel, French playwright, philosopher and Christian thinker, is another teacher he mentioned with admiration. "I once asked him how he managed to sustain his zest for life into his later years; he was at least 80 at the time. He replied with a twinkle in his eyes and the wisp of a smile: 'I have an enormous curiosity about life.' He was an intellectual but not a prig, a scholar but not a pedant, an academic but not a recluse, a philosopher and also a poet. He combined a sharp mind, warm heart, broad culture, and a Christian perspective."

That, to me, also describes Penrose St. Amant.

concentrates on Baptist stamps.

In this collection, Meister has brought together persons and ideas from the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Centuries. For example, one stamp depicts the German Anabaptist Thomas Muntzer and another the American religious liberty champion, Roger Williams. Alongside these personages from earlier times are present-day Baptists. These include Pastor Chow Lien-Hwa who ministered to Chiang Kai-Shek and his family, and the Caribbean Baptist evangelist, Rowena Rand.

Among the other stamps are:

— Sixty-five stamps from 30 countries showing the work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

— a collection of cancellations from Baptist congresses, dating from Berlin, 1934, as well as the special stamps issued for the 1960 Baptist World Alliance Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;

— a group depicting the Oleviste church in Tallinn, Estonian SSR, where the Baptist congregation has met since 1950.

— most of the nearly 40 stamps issued by Italy which were designed by the Baptist artist Paolo Paschetto, who is to be commemorated by centenary observances early next year.

Congress cancellations and the recognition of Christian believers in many countries who belong to the Baptist family have especially added that global dimension in this 150th year since the founding of the Baptist congregation in Hamburg by Johann Gerhard Oncken, which formed a theme for the EBF Congress.

Meister is a past president of the Baptist Union of Switzerland and of the European Baptist Federation, and has served on the General Council for the BWA.

Johnni Scofield writes for the FMB.

Baptists provide \$40,000 for the Philippines

Luzon, Philippines (BP) — Southern Baptists and Baptists from Hong Kong and Guam responded to natural disasters in the Philippines during September and October with more than \$40,000 in relief.

Most went to help rehabilitate areas after the strongest typhoon since 1972 leveled entire villages. Another typhoon left many people homeless and hungry. And a volcanic eruption with ensuing mudslides sent 70,000 people fleeing from their homes.

The Foreign Mission Board released \$22,000 Sept. 26 to provide temporary shelter, roofing materials and clothes for about 650 families, and to distribute rice to about 450 families in

Surigao del Norte and Bohol provinces. Missionaries hope to start churches in four villages in those areas.

The board released \$9,000 Oct. 11 to repair roofs for 19 families and to provide food and replanting seed for 562 families on the northern island of Luzon.

It also released \$8,700 Oct. 4 to provide food and seed for 600 families in four villages affected by the eruption of Mayon volcano near Legaspi City on Luzon.

Guam Baptists donated \$1,000 and Hong Kong Baptists donated \$372.35 for the relief projects.

W.A. Criswell honored for forty year pastorate

DALLAS (BP) — The 40th anniversary of W.A. Criswell as pastor of Southern Baptist's largest congregation, First Baptist Church, Dallas, was celebrated Oct. 7.

Since Criswell succeeded the late George W. Truett as pastor Nov. 19, 1944, the church has grown from 7,000 members to 25,000 and the budget from \$200,000 to more than \$12 million.

Members of the church, which occupies more than five city blocks in downtown Dallas, celebrated Criswell's 40th anniversary with an original, humorous musical about his ministry, a concert featuring gospel singer Willa Dorsey and other presentations.

Criswell and his wife, Betty Mae, whom he met and married at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., 50 years ago, smiled, wiped away tears and applauded. Forty children presented the couple with a rose for each year they have been at the church.

Criswell was given a 1985 Mercedes Benz and his wife a century old French mantel clock.

Evangelist Billy Graham, who's been a member of First Church, Dallas, since 1951, expressed his appreciation for the Criswells via videotape.

Letters of appreciation came from many people including Texas Gov. Mark White, a Southern Baptist, and President Reagan. Criswell gave the benediction after Reagan's renomination at the August Republican Convention in Dallas.

But Reagan isn't the only political candidate to seek Criswell's blessing. He nearly endorsed Gerald Ford on the steps of the church in 1965 and Menachem Begin honored the white haired Baptist for his support of Israel. And the Vatican set up a last-minute audience for Criswell with Pope Paul VI.

Washington wives undertake war on African hunger

WASHINGTON, DC (EP) A challenge for American women to join in a "grassroots war on starvation in Africa" was presented to a Capitol Hill gathering of 100 women leaders.

The meeting, which followed an August fact-finding trip to the drought-stricken countries of Mali and Senegal by five Congressmen's wives, was called in an attempt to establish a national women's action committee on the African crisis.

"Before I went to Africa, my reaction to starvation was one of horror and pity," said Carolyn Bonker, wife of Rep. Don Bonker (D. Wash.) and a leader in the congressional wives group that initiated the anti-hunger drive. "My time there taught me that despite all our cultural differences, we women are very much alike the

The anniversary theme was "The Forty Years That Began With Prayer" commemorating Criswell's first sermon at the Dallas church. Oldest members recalled their 34-year old preacher's hand shook that day as he read his text, "For there stood by me the angel of God saying fear not." At the conclusion of his message, they said, Criswell fell to his knees, wept audibly and prayed to God for divine guidance.

Adrian Rogers, guest preacher for the 40th anniversary celebration, said, "Dr. Criswell is one of my heroes . . . He's had a profound influence on the Southern Baptist Convention, this nation and the world." Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, Tenn., is a former Southern Baptist Convention president, as is Criswell who served from 1968-70.

During the anniversary observance the church, also announced the establishment of the W.A. Criswell Endowment Fund for First Baptist Academy and the Criswell Center for Biblical studies.

Both schools operate in the church's downtown buildings which may increase again with the recent \$4.6 million acquisition of the Salvation Army building adjacent of the church.

Just before the anniversary observance, the 75-year-old Criswell told the Baptist Standard, the official weekly news magazine of Texas Baptists, he still has "one or two more things" he would like to see accomplished before he steps from the scene — or is carried from it. He said he has no plans for retirement.

Criswell said he would like to see a new sanctuary center to seat 2,000 around tables and 3,000 without them and a new education building for children and teenagers.

Second is a new ministry built around small units, in the manner of a church in Korea led by Pastor Paul Yunge Cho with more than 300,000 members.

world over."

"As responsible citizens of the world, we cannot stand by and let 150 million Africans slowly starve to death," said Grace Nelson, chairman of the event. "If even one child was found dead of starvation on our streets it would be national news and there would be public outcry. That kind of horror is happening in Africa every few minutes, and it is a crime against humanity not to do something about it."

The fact-finding group proposed establishing a network of volunteers who would coordinate a variety of fund-raising programs in their own cities. "A National Planned Famine" which is to be conducted in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia in April, 1985, was also proposed.



Pastor and Mrs. W. A. Criswell of First Church, Dallas, the largest SBC church, received words of appreciation from members of the congregation at a celebration of his 40th anniversary as pastor. (BP) Photo by Kendall Kirk.

Fire destroys Baptist school in Zimbabwe

SANYATI, Zimbabwe (BP) — A late night fire, apparently caused by electrical problems, destroyed the Sanyati Baptist Primary School in Sanyati, Zimbabwe, evicting 563 students and causing \$70,000 in damage.

The students now meet under trees on the Sanyati Baptist mission station, site of the school in north central Zimbabwe.

Despite the students' rescue attempts, the Sept. 23 blaze destroyed furniture, materials and newly received textbooks inside the building.

Started by the Baptist Mission of Zimbabwe in 1953, the school is now operated by the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe.

Perkins to address urban conference

ATLANTA — John Perkins, founder of Voice of Calvary Ministries, an agency upgrading the socio-economic plight of blacks through Christian communities and the church, will address the Fall Forum on Urban Evangelism, Nov. 9, at the Ramada Central Motel here.

The forum, sponsored by the Associational Evangelism Department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, presents strategies and techniques for urban ministry which have proven successful in reaching metropolitan areas for Jesus Christ.

Perkins, who grew up in poverty as a sharecropper's son in New Hebron, Miss., is best known for his work of building black Christian communities. Although he never finished the third grade, he has been awarded several doctorates, including an honorary doctor of law degree from Wheaton College, and honorary doctor of public service degree from Gordon College, and an honorary doctor of humanities degree from Huntington College.

To make reservations, contact Metro Evangelism Office, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Ga., 30367, before November 1.

N.M. association defeats resolution on women

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (BP) — A resolution opposing the ordination of women was defeated 44-39 at the annual meeting of New Mexico's largest Southern Baptist association Oct. 16.

The resolution, submitted to the Central Association's resolution committee by Boyd Morerod, was similar to a resolution passed by messengers to the 1984 Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo. Morerod is pastor of First Baptist Church in Los Chavez.

The resolution was brought to the floor without specific recommendation after resolution committee members could not agree on the resolution.

The resolution stated since Paul "excludes women from pastoral leadership to preserve a submission God required because the man was first in creation and the woman was first in the Edenic fall," then women should be encouraged to serve in all aspects of church life and work "other than pastoral function and leadership roles entailing ordination."

Debate of the resolution was impassioned. First to speak against the passage was Marsha Moore, a member of Albuquerque's Heights Baptist Church and a chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital. Moore explained

she had been a chaplain for six years and was hindered in her work by not being ordained. She was to be ordained by Heights Church Oct. 21.

Heights' pastor Carmen Conner told messengers his church already has two ordained women deacons and would ordain more regardless of the vote on the resolution. He said he did not believe the church's practice was contrary to Scripture or out of God's will for that church.

Thomas Fould, pastor of Albuquerque's Westgate Church, spoke for the resolution. He said he agreed with Dallas pastor W. A. Criswell that "when a woman can prove she is the husband of one wife, we'll ordain her."

The local church autonomy was cited by David Red as a reason not to pass the resolution. Red, minister of music at Albuquerque's Del North church, said ordination is a matter Baptists have traditionally left to local churches to decide. If the resolution passed, Red said, it could become a test of fellowship in the association.

Central Association includes 54 churches from Albuquerque and surrounding areas. There were 146 messengers registered for the meeting.

OKC First messengers seated at annual meeting

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — By a four to one margin, messengers from First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, were seated at the annual meeting of Capital Association, despite a letter protesting their seating because the church has ordained women deacons.

Last year, messengers at the association's annual meeting voted, by a 2-1 margin, against seating messengers from the church, where former SBC Second Vice-President Gene Garrison is pastor, even though the church did not send messengers.

This year, 20 messengers — the maximum — were seated after a 392-90 vote. Hugo Lindquist, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, challenged the seating, but messengers adopted a positive substitute offered by Bailey Smith, pastor of Del City First Southern Baptist church and former president of the SBC, allowing First Church members to be seated.

During the discussion, Garrison said: "I do not believe the issue before us tonight is autonomy, but I do believe the issue is spirit, fellowship, and openness to a common task."

Garrison said it is obvious the majority of churches in the association do not favor the ordination of women.

"The conservative nature of our association is well established, but tonight we are establishing the spirit of the association. I do not ask you to believe that we are necessarily right, but I must say in some defense, if we are wrong, B. H. Carroll was wrong,

for he had deaconesses in First Church, Waco. Also A. T. Robertson in three places . . . says certain passages (in the New Testament) are

clearly about women deacons."

Lindquist contended, "What we do tonight will decide what we believe as Baptists and how far we will go. We've got to call a halt to the chipping away of what we believe in as Baptists." He told messengers if God had intended women to serve in ordained roles, women would have been included in the disciples and the first deacons chosen.

"The Southern Baptist Convention looked to Capital Association as the conservative association in America. Did you know that?" Lindquist cautioned.

Charles D. Graves, pastor of Nichols Hills Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, was first to oppose Lindquist's motion: "We've already spoken on this issue and I'm not convinced it's the primary issue . . . If we seat First Church, we'll be seating messengers who've been seated before and I disagreed with some things they've done, but I think we should accept them."

"These people have changed about nothing else except this one issue and it is not worthy to be compared to redemption through Jesus or the authority or inerrancy of God's word," he added.

Speaking on his substitute motion, Smith said, "I think what this association wants to do is let the world know that most of us believe these roles are masculine and we want to express them. But there's also the matter of being Christian and having the spirit of Christ."

Ernie Perkins, Capital Association executive director, later expressed his joy at the annual meeting's events.



Harmony men go to El Salvador

Four men from Harmony Church, Crystal Springs went with missionary Leo Humphrey of New Orleans, GOOD NEWS IN ACTION, to San Salvador, El Salvador, Sept. 11-18. They were Hal Shirley, Tommy Ellis Bell, Harl Thompson, and Mike Pennock, pastor. Pictured l to r, are Casa Berry, deacon chairman, Thompson, Bell, Pennock, and Shirley.

Eleven men with the missionary group shared 65,000 gospel tracts, cases of the Gospel of John, and New Testaments. They showed evangelistic films at night and witnessed on the streets during the day.

Southern Baptist missionary, Bill Stennett helped coordinate some of the activities with the local pastors.

"San Salvador is a place where your faith is really tested and the power of God truly is manifested," said Mike Pennock, the Harmony pastor. "The people of those war torn countries are reaching out searching for the truth to be told. They know Communism is not the answer as if never before. Men, women, boys and girls from the high class of town to those who live on the tracks, that is to say, those who live near the railroad tracks in dwelling made with whatever material they can find, came to us to hear and receive the message of Jesus Christ. We were glad to be able to go and hope to go again in the near future. Oswald J. Smith said, 'Why should anyone hear the gospel twice before everyone has heard it once'. I believe it is up to every one of us to forward BOLD MISSION THRUST."

Homecomings

Chunky Church, Chunky: nineteenth annual homecoming day, Nov. 4; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; morning worship, 11 a.m. Wayne Campbell, pastor, will speak; lunch at noon, followed by an afternoon singing program at 1:30 p.m.; church training 6 p.m. with worship service at 7.

Good Hope, (Leake): harvest day, Nov. 11; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; morning worship at 11 a.m.; guest speaker will be James Young, former pastor and now a missionary to Bangladesh; afternoon service, 1:30 p.m. with singing and our associational director, David Satterwhite as guest speaker; Odell Tebo, pastor.

"Hot line" offers mission prayer needs

RICHMOND, Va. — Global Circuit, the foreign missions prayer "hot line" for Southern Baptists, begins its 14th year Nov. 23. The toll-free telephone line will offer up-to-date mission prayer requests through Dec. 10.

Taped messages containing short, specific prayer requests will change Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the 18-day period. The national toll-free number is 1-800-446-2725.

Straight Bayou Church, Anguilla: harvest day, Nov. 4; Harold Jordan, interim pastor for several months, now serving as interim pastor of Valley Park Church, morning message; Steve Norville, on the staff of First, Rolling Fork, music; Sunday school, 10 a.m.; morning worship 11 a.m.; lunch around noon; afternoon praise service 1:30 p.m. E. Leslie Hicks, pastor; Mrs. Gene Hodnett, chairman of the harvest day committee.

Sand Hill, Rt. 4, Richton: Nov. 11; homecoming, 112th anniversary; worship 11:00 a.m. with several speakers including Ronnie Maxie of Carriere, a former member licensed to preach by the church, along with others; dinner on the ground at noon; 1:30 p.m. will feature the "Abercrombies", a gospel singing group in concert; no night service is planned; Bruce Worrell, pastor.

Zion Hill, Wesson: homecoming Nov. 4; 101st anniversary; morning service, 10:45 a.m.; dinner on ground; J. Frank Smith, pastor.

Bethlehem, (Simpson): homecoming, Nov. 4; Sunday school 10 a.m.; worship service 11 a.m.; lunch in fellowship hall immediately following morning worship; Jerome McLendon, pastor.

Churches make commitment for 8.5 by '85 final year

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — "The mission for every New Testament church is the same now as it was in the first century," Harry Piland, director of the Sunday school department for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board told worshipers at the Bluegrass Baptist Church, Hendersonville, Tenn., during an Oct. 7 commitment service.

The church was one of several throughout the Southern Baptist Convention holding a commitment service emphasizing the Reach 5 in '85 Sunday school growth program. Some churches had 24-hour prayer vigils prior to their commitment service. Others discussed Reach 5 in '85 during Sunday school leadership programs.

Piland wrote pastors of the more than 36,000 Southern Baptist churches asking that they designate Oct. 7 commitment day for their members to sign commitment cards to enlist at least five persons in Bible study during the final year of the 8.5 by '85 enrollment emphasis.

The goal is to have 8.5 million persons enrolled in Sunday school by Sept. 30, 1985. Southern Baptist churches must enroll more than 500,000 this year to meet that goal.

More than 150 employees of the Sunday school department participated in a 24-hour prayer vigil ending at 9 a.m. Oct. 7 to support churches throughout the convention participating in commitment day

activities.

Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville, had 138 members participating in a 24-hour prayer vigil before the beginning of their Oct. 7 services.

That prayer vigil led to 82 persons committing to reach at least five persons for Bible study this year, said Willo McCoy, Inglewood minister of education.

Texas Baptists have set a goal of 100,000 net gain in Sunday school enrollment as a challenge to support the convention goal of a 500,000 net gain, said Bernard Spooner, Texas state Sunday school director.

One Texas church, First Baptist, Oak Cliff, in Dallas, has set a goal of a 333 net increase in Sunday school enrollment for a 20 percent increase during the year, Spooner said.

Photo policy

In order to provide an understanding of the policy on photographs followed by the Baptist Record, an explanation of that policy is presented.

1. We can use only good pictures in order to achieve reasonable reproduction.
2. We will run all pictures of youth missionary organization recognition services that measure up to the quality standard. We will have news items for those churches that do not send usable pictures.
3. For graduation stories, only those receiving doctorates will be pictured. Mississippi graduates of seminaries will be listed.
4. For music performances at church and association programs, only Mississippi non-professional groups will be pictured, and then only if the program is not one for the group's own church. For promotion of statewide meetings the use of pictures of music groups will be decided by the BAPTIST RECORD staff
5. The BAPTIST RECORD will run notices of anniversaries relating to Baptist entities in Mississippi any time we receive them. We will use pictures only in multiples of five years.
6. We can use college-bestowed honors only when we are aware that the honoree is a Mississippi Baptist.
7. Because there are so many instances in which they would be applicable, we cannot use evangelists' pictures in revival meeting situations.
8. Members of the BAPTIST RECORD staff will use their own judgment in final selection of pictures, according to editorial needs, picture quality, and space available.

Revival Dates

Southside, Jackson: Nov. 4-8; Sunday service, 11 a.m., evening services 7 p.m. nightly; Bill Hartley, full-time evangelist, preaching; Ray Mears, full-time music evangelist, Monroe, La., special music; Donald N. Bozeman, pastor.

Adaton (Oktibbeha): Nov. 4 to Nov. 7; Roger Haney, pastor, Second Church Leachville, Ark. evangelist; Hugh Moreland, interim music director at Trinity Church, West Point, music director; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services at 7 p.m.; Bruce Markley, pastor.

Michael Memorial (Gulf Coast): Nov. 4-Nov. 11; services on Sundays, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; through the week at 7:30 p.m.; Troy A. Sumrall, interim pastor, evangelist; "Pop" Stone, music.

Johns Church (Rankin Association): Nov. 4 to 7; Tommy Anderson, pastor Paul Pruitt Memorial Church, Pearl, evangelist; Tommy Jenkins, Trinity Church, Petal, music director; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services, 7:30 p.m.; Troy Grubbs, pastor.

Missionary News

Billy and Gerry Colston, missionaries to Korea, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: 2233 Woodview Dr., Birmingham, Ala. 35216). Born in Kosciusko, he moved with his family to Fayette, Ala., as a teen-ager. She is the former Gerry Rutland of Amite, La. They were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967.



The Stewarts

1st, Eupora honors Stewarts on 20th year

First Church, Eupora recently honored Mr. and Mrs. William S. Stewart and their family as they celebrated 20 years as pastor of the church. J. C. Herrod, chairman of deacons, presented gifts from the church, and recounted some events of the past 20 years, in a presentation written by Mrs. Sara Miller. The church shared the noon meal in the Fellowship Hall.

The Stewarts have three children: Leah (Mrs. Hugh Bland) of Jackson; Lauren, a senior at Ole Miss; and Bill Jr. an 8th grade student at Eupora Middle School.

Hostesses for the noon meal were members of the church hospitality committee. They were Mrs. Jessie Faye Hunter, chairman, Mrs. June Castle, Mrs. Joe Bob Davis, Mrs. Jimmie McCain, Mrs. Edd Morrow, and

Mrs. W. C. Woods. An anniversary cake depicted years of Stewart's service, 1964-1984.

"He who made the world is going to master it through the simple preaching of the gospel." — J. B. Gambrell

"It is no time, in a charge, to stop to sew on buttons." — J. B. Gambrell

Enon (Winston) to dedicate new building

Enon Church, Winston County, will dedicate its new fellowship hall on Nov. 4. Featured speaker will be W. L. Day, a former pastor of the church, who is now retired and lives in Louisville.

It was during Day's pastorate that dreams first began for a building such as this, reports Mrs. Woodrow Fulton, the church secretary and treasurer.

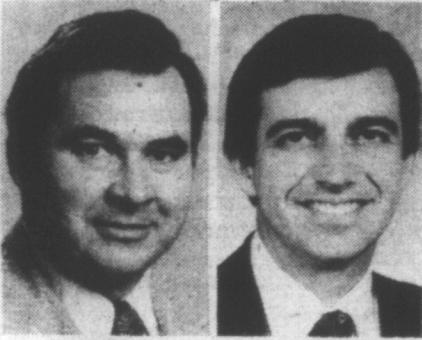
Mrs. Emma McNeill, music director during Day's pastorate, will be featured in special music. Also Reggie Lovorn, present music director, will provide special music. Jerry Stevens, director of missions, Winston County, and Allen H. Mapp, Jr., Enon pastor, will be on program. Lunch will be served.

Memorial gifts and love offerings



Enon's new fellowship hall, right, will be dedicated Nov. 4. The sanctuary, left, was built in 1902.

Staff Changes



Fleming

Show

Harold D. Fleming has served as minister of education/administration at First Church, McComb since Sept. 1, 1974. Fleming has assumed a new staff position as minister of senior adults/administration. The church has called Gary Shows to serve as minister of education. A native of Jones County, he is a graduate of William Carey College, and New Orleans Seminary. He has served the Amite Church, Denham Springs, La., for the past ten years.

Charles Griffin, pastor of West End Church, Winston County, has resigned the pastorate and is now available to supply as interim and pastoral work.

Kenny Simmons is serving as the new minister of music at First, Guntown.

Schoona Chapel, Pontotoc County, has welcomed James Gregory as new pastor.

have made it possible for the building to be dedicated free of debt. "Also it has been through the efforts of prayer, hard work, cooperation, and planning on the part of all committees that the building stands debt free," said Mrs. Fulton. Some furnishings for the building and a breezeway to connect the two buildings are yet to be provided.

Enon Church, the fourth oldest Baptist church in Winston County, was constituted March 27, 1842. The present sanctuary, pictured with the new fellowship hall, was erected in 1902, but numerous changes have been made to it during the 80 years of its existence. Earlier, the church was located about two miles southeast of the present buildings.

-Names in the News-

Terry Bumpers was ordained as a deacon on Sept. 30 at First Church, Guntown.

NEW ORLEANS — Calvin Miller, noted author and pastor, and Wayne Watson, popular contemporary Christian singer and songwriter, will lead the annual Student Missions Conference at New Orleans Seminary Nov. 2-4. Miller's books include "The Singer," "The Song," "The Finale," "Guardians of the Singreale," "The Taste of Joy," and "The Philippians Fragment." He is also a pastor in Omaha, Neb. Watson has had a number of songs that reached the top 10 in contemporary Christian music charts, including his No. 1 hit "Touch of the Master's Hand." His latest release is "Celebrate."

Curtis L. Alston of Clarke County, has been selected as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America of 1984. He is a second year student at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

GEORGETOWN, Ky.—W. Morgan Patterson was formally inaugurated as Georgetown College's 22nd president on Monday morning, Oct. 22 in the John L. Hill Chapel in company with over a thousand including family, longtime friends, alumni, trustees, faculty and institutional delegates.

L. Craig Whitlock, professor of physics and head of the Department of Physics at Mississippi College, has been named recipient of the 1984 George B. Pegram Award given by



Union Church, near Picayune broke ground a few weeks ago on a new building. It included the Building Committee and the general contractor. Left to right are Mrs. Sherry LaVigne; Mrs. Sarah Hill; Mrs. Georgia McCormick; Dionne Williams, minister of education and youth; Lane Dossett, rear; G. A. McCoy, pastor; Edward Earl Pearson, rear; Ronnie Dossett; Ladonis Jones, chairman; Z. T. Jones (rear); Don Welsh, architect; and Bob Graham, general contractor.

Union (Pearl River) begins construction of building

Alvis K. Cooper has been called as pastor to the West Corinth Church, Alcorn Association. Cooper holds degrees from Blue Mountain College, University of Mississippi, and New Orleans Seminary. Cooper has previously pastored churches in Marshall, Pontotoc, and Winston Associations. He and his wife Martha moved on the church field in early October.

Gerald Finley is the new pastor of Hebron Church, Pontotoc County.

The new metal and masonry building will house a single story office suite and a two-story education unit at each end of a two-story activities building. The building will measure 170 feet by 70 feet.

"The new facility will make it possible to reach at least 600 in Sunday School attendance," said the pastor.

the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society for his contributions to physics teaching. The award consists of a boxed Gold Medal, a bound Certificate of Excellence in the Teaching of Physics, and an accompanying citation. Whitlock received the award during a ceremonial dinner in Memphis, Tenn. hosted by SESAPS. Whitlock is a member of the American Physical Society and also belongs to that organization's Nuclear Division and Southwestern Section. He is a member of Sigma Pi Sigma and Sigma Xi honorary societies. At First Church, Clinton, he is a Sunday School leader and a deacon.

Noah Palmer, former pastor of Crystal Ridge Church in Winston County is available for supply, interim pastor or pastor. He may be contacted in Louisville at 773-7411.

Edith O. Sparkman died Oct. 3 in Little Rock, Ark. at age 77. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd A. Sparkman, a retired Baptist minister and past president of the Arkansas Baptist Convention who formerly served pastorates in Mississippi. Mrs. Sparkman, born in Little Rock, was a member of the Parkway Place Church. Other survivors include a son, L. Alfred Sparkman, pastor of First Church, Crossett, Ark.; two daughters, Maurine Sorenson of Raleigh, N. C. and Joyce Turner of Carthage, Miss.; one brother; one sister; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Carey to hold 'Sader Search'

'Sader Search '84, William Carey College's annual prospective student day, will be held Nov. 16 at the school's Hattiesburg campus.

Purpose of the one-day program is to acquaint high school juniors and seniors and junior college students with Carey's campus and its student life and academic programs.

After registration at 8:30 a.m. students will be given a tour of the campus and will have an opportunity to visit classes and discuss financial aid and admission requirements.

Faculty members will be available to discuss students' areas of interest and the program will conclude after lunch, which will be provided by the college.

For more information contact the office of admissions, William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., 39401, or call 582-5051, extension 210.

Clarke hosts Preview Day

Clarke College will host its annual Fall Preview Day on Nov. 14. Prospective students, parents, and visitors are invited.

Activities begin at 8:30 a.m. with registration in the Administration Building. There will be opportunities for guests to attend classes, counsel with faculty members, and tour the campus during the morning.

All visitors will be the guests of the college for lunch in the cafeteria. Following lunch, students and parents are invited to participate in regularly scheduled activities for the afternoon. The financial aid director will be available for counseling, and to explain procedure for application for financing aid.

Men's and Women's basketball coaches and baseball and women's softball coaches will be available to talk to students interested in intercollegiate athletics.

For more information, call or write the Admissions Office, Clarke College, Newton, Mississippi (601) 683-2061.

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Just for the Record



Flora Church, Flora, used "A Wonderful World" as the theme for a GA recognition service, Oct. 7. GAs left to right, front row: Stephanie Smith, Angie Barker, Christy Quattlebaum, Melanie Quattlebaum, Heather Irwin, Melissa Davis; second row: Kelly Kerr, Misty Westbrook, Carissa Selp, Phoebe Vaughn, Wendy Smith, Kendra Burns, Erica Davis and Jenny Mortimer. Not pictured: Julie Horn, Michele Cranford, Jamie Parker, Jamie Ross, Heather Ashly and Lynn Clark. The leaders of GAs are Pat Horn, Rosemary Kerr, LeNoir Mortimer, Tommie Lou Smith, Pauline Vaughn and Lee Westbrook. Steve Jackson is pastor.



GAs of Wade Church, Pascagoula, were honored for their achievements in Missions Adventure. The theme was "What a Wonderful, Wonderful World." Dierdre Saucier received her charm for having completed all of her books. (1st row) left to right—Dani Norton, Alison Saucier, Christy Simmons; (2nd row), Patricia Wilks, Julie Naramore, Jennifer Simmons, Christy Tanner, Adrienne Saucier, Angie Jones, Amy Jordan, Jamie Parker. (3rd row) Misty Waltman, Missy Naramore, Melinda Gatlin, Rhonda Ard, Tiny Breland, Kim Shattles, Christy Persons. (4th row) Dierdre Saucier, Kristy Wilks, Cherie Persons.



Dumas Church, Tippah Co. celebrated homecoming and ground breaking day, Oct. 7. The new facilities will consist of educational space and a fellowship hall estimated at a cost of \$73,000. Pictured from left to right, front row, pastor Bob Watkins, chairman Doxey Davis, Lynda Grisham, Gail Hill, Bill Self, and Kenneth Harrison of the building committee.

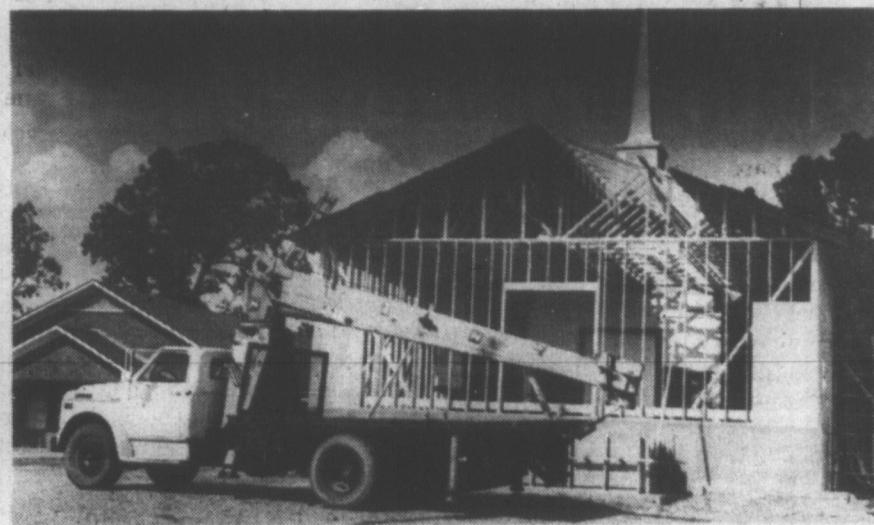
Cauthen suffers mild stroke

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Baker James Cauthen, executive director emeritus of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, suffered a mild stroke Oct. 22 in Mill Valley, Calif., where he was visiting professor of missions at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

"He suffered a mild stroke and has a mild weakness on his left side," said Ken Eakins, associate dean of Golden Gate seminary. "He had a very good night following the stroke and attending physicians indicate damage is minimal."

Cauthen, 74, was teaching two classes at the seminary. He retired December 1979, after 26 years as executive director-treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board.

Cauthen was reported in good condition in Marin General Hospital in Greenbrae, Calif.



Harmony Church, Crystal Springs has begun work to increase the capacity of its auditorium by about a hundred and renovate all of its Sunday school rooms, according to Mike Pennock, pastor. To date \$74,579.10 of the \$116,121.32 needed has been raised. Plans are to be in the new facilities by the end of Dec. The building committee members are Larry Bell, chairman, Clemon Sojourner, Edwin Vaughn, Jimmy Walls, and Hal Shirley.



Woodland Hills Church, Jackson, held recognition service for Mission Friends, GAs and Acteens. Top picture, Mission Friends, from left, front row, Charles Marion, Amy Collier, Brittney Green, Melissa Simpson, Blake Barnett, Natalie Jones; second row, Wesley Gray, Andy Jones, Catherine Hines, Robin Ethridge, and Rita Williams. Middle picture, GAs, from left, front row, Nancilynn Aldridge, Tracy Ethridge, Dacia Green, Eliza Causey, Laura Barnett; second row, Leigh Chapman, Catherine Simpson, Tonya Murphy, Kara Glass, Bethany Barnett, and Melissa McMullen. Bottom picture, Acteens, all queens, from left, front row, queen with crown bearer, Diane Brown and Natalie Jones, April Denson and Robin Ethridge, Susanne Brown and Rita Williams, Casondra Berch and Robin Mays, Paige Denson and Paxson Little. Bill Fuller, pastor.

Mississippi Baptist activities

Nov. 4-10 Royal Ambassador Emphasis Week (BRO Emphasis)
Nov. 9-10 Acteens Mother/Daughter Weekend, Camp Garaywa, 5 p.m., 9th
3 p.m., 10th (WMU)

Crooked Creek Church, Silver Creek held a recognition service, Oct. 14 for those who have been in perfect attendance, pins were presented to the following: one-year pins, Dorothy Turnage, Katie Roberts and Chloe Barnett; two-year pins, Lillian Blackmon, Angela Davis, Joshua Davis; four-year pin, Tess Cliburn; six-year pin, Kim Davis; seven-year pin, Clifton White; eight-year pin, Higdon Watson; ten-year pin, Ora Lee Watson; eleven-year pin, Fannie McGuffee; eighteen-year pins, Rose Davis and J. I. Davis. Ray Hodges is pastor.

Oakland Grove Church, Laurel held dedication of a new addition to the educational/fellowship building, Oct. 21. This is phase 1 of a building program which includes the building of a new sanctuary as the next phase. Lindsey Blackledge, pastor, led in the dedication.

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Preachers advised, 'Match texts to people'

By Jim Lowry

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP) — More than 60 Florida pastors attended the state's first Preaching Conference at First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla., recently and heard advice, tips, dialogue, and encouragement to aid in proclaiming God's Word.

One of the overarching themes of the three-day conference was the urgent need for pastors to match sermon texts to the needs of the congregation.

Joel Gregory, professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, explained it by advising that preachers who start with biblical exposition during a sermon should move from Galilee to Orlando (their home town) as soon as possible.

Every point of a sermon needs to relate directly to the church members, noted Gregory, who warned

pastors a theme for a sermon will not just materialize at 11 a.m. on Sunday without planning and thought.

"Effective biblical preaching must stand between the biblical world and the contemporary world," Gregory said. "Ineffective preaching results when the pastor knows the geography of Galilee but does not know the sins of the businessman in his congregation." However, he added, "It is not the role of the preacher to make the Bible relevant. The Bible is relevant. Just don't stand in the way of the Bible — turn it loose."

Harold Bryson, professor of preaching at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, told the pastors, "Preaching is a plea for relationships with God, self, and fellow human beings." These relationships have to be recognized as more in-depth than casual friendships, but

long relationships developed over years between family and church members.

"People are being helped in churches all over the Southern Baptist Convention by pastors who are staying for years and helping members through crises," Bryson explained. "In many of these small churches pastors have endeared themselves by developing close relationships where their humanity has come out. Congregation members know he hurts also."

Sometimes these pastors are discouraged, Bryson added, because their churches are not having the statistical success about which they frequently read and hear. He encouraged the pastors to be faithful.

"The world's success standards have oozed into the pastorate," he explained. "We want to sell more

cars and get more profits. The truth is, Jesus shattered that success illusion with the parable of the sower. There are sowers on large and small plots. Success is not based on the effectiveness of the sower but the ground and the seed.

"We can't override the human will to have more baptisms, and we can't force people to be baptized," he continued. "We just have to be faithful to sow. Jesus gave us permission to fail. It just should lead to more faithful and qualitative sowing."

In a session on pastoral authority, Joe Stackler, secretary of the church administration department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, said tensions can develop over the quest for authority in local churches. He said some pastors want to be in charge to appear successful, and some church members want to be in

charge to avoid change.

"The tension between power and service is a paradox," Stackler explained, "because power comes through service. Pastors need to understand that the ministry of Jesus was not to be served but a servant. Don't appear to be above hurt, pain, and spiritual problems when in reality you face all of these," he said. "Don't be afraid to open up some to your congregation and you will gain authority."

"Also, be an encourager of people," he said. "We do too much beating people over the head with the hammer of guilt. Don't forget the grace of God. And don't forget that you can't be something in the pulpit that you aren't the rest of the week."

Jim Lowry is on the staff of the Sunday School Board.

Devotional

Of hogs and lepers . . . and me

By Nathan L. Barber

Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at his feet, giving thanks to him. And he was a Samaritan (Luke 17: 15, 16).

Jesus is about to enter an unnamed village. The ten lepers holler to get his attention. Jesus speaks. They obey. They are healed. Nine Jews continue on their way. One Samaritan, "turned back" to glorify God and to say, "Thank you!" Why did he do that? What made him different from the other nine?

Was the difference the fact that he was a Samaritan leper and they were Jewish lepers? No. The fact is that their identical, personal tragedy had broken down the normal, but superficial, barriers between them. They were all infected with the living-dead disease of leprosy. They had all been separated from family and friends to remain unclean 'till death.

Was the difference the fact that he had approached the Master in the wrong manner? No. The fact is that since, by law, they could not go near anyone. They all "raised their voices," saying "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus was pleased to respond with favor to their cry for mercy . . . all were healed.

Was the difference the fact that only he had a legitimate need? No. The fact is that all ten of the men had a legitimate need. They were all lepers and unable to do anything about it. The great Physician, moved by their need and inadequacy, met their need.

Was the difference, then, the fact that he received the Master's blessing with a different attitude? Yes! Yes! Yes! Perhaps the nine Jews who continued on their way felt that Jesus, since he was "one of them," was just doing what he ought to do. Perhaps the nine felt that it was their right to be healed. But the Samaritan's attitude was entirely different. Foreigner or not, he recognized that the Master's attention and goodness had not come to him as a result of merit or rights. He correctly perceived that his blessing from the Master had come by grace! He was undeserving; but he was richly blessed. He, even though alone, must turn back to glorify God and give thanks at his feet.

Timothy Dexter is right when he says, "An ungrateful man is like a hog under a tree eating acorns, but never looking up to see where they come from."

Nathan L. Barber is pastor of First Church, Bay St. Louis.

McDowell Road concert presents Squire Parsons

Squire Parsons and Redeemed, featuring soloists Squire Parsons and Ernie Phillips, will be appearing in concert at McDowell Road Church, 1020 McDowell Road, Jackson, on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 10:30 a.m. The public is invited. Gary Rivers is pastor. Gary Cornett is minister of music.

Pray for MKs

Nov. 4 — Amy Frederick, Guadeloupe, USM

Nov. 13 — David E. Simmons, Spain, USM

Nov. 29 — Lisa Lynn Shaffer, Miss. Delta Junior College

In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, four out of five people picked up for stealing books from the public library are stealing the Bible, according to librarians there.

Second laity conference scheduled

NEW ORLEANS — The emphasis will be on service and ministry when laypersons from throughout the nation gather in March for the second annual convocation of the laity at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The theme of this year's laity conference will be "Diakonos: Ministry for the Laos." Diakonos is the Greek word in the New Testament referring to service and ministry. Laos means "all the people of God" and is the root of our words "laity" and "layperson."

Two former presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention, Herschell Hobbs and Owen Cooper, will be among speakers at the conference March 7-9, 1985, at the seminary campus. Hobbs is pastor emeritus of First Baptist, Oklahoma City and Cooper is from Yazoo City, Miss., and is the last layperson to

serve as SBC president.

"There's a ministry for every person," Cooper said, adding, "Christianity needs for people to find their ministry and perform their ministry."

He said the conference is for all church members — laypersons and pastors, men and women.

Other conference leaders include: Malcolm Tolbert, Southeastern Seminary faculty member; Grady Cothen, president emeritus of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Sid Buckley, minister of music and music evangelist from Easley, S.C.; Landrum P. Leavell II, president of New Orleans Seminary; and laymen Bill Hamm of Shreveport, La., Pat Baughman of Hilton Head Island,

S.C., Russell Bush Jr. of Columbia, Miss., and Fred Roach of Dallas.

The conference fee is \$25. To register or for more information contact Kinchen at 504-282-4455 or write to him at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, La. 70126-4858.

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THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM
Baptist Children's Village



P. O. Box 11308

FROM

Baptist Children's Village

Jackson, MS 39213

An Open Letter To Baptists As Individuals

Dear Baptist Friend:

When I first came to the Village as the administrator in 1960, and on repeated occasions during the succeeding 24 years, many Baptists, including Convention leaders have reminded me that the Village ministry is dear to Mississippi Baptists, and when the Village and its children need help, we need only speak up. In reliance upon that assurance, and for the sake of hundreds of children who turn to the Village for assistance each year, I ask our friends, as individuals, to consider extending the Village some immediate and supplemental financial support.

In 1984, for reasons we can not understand, our most important and dependable offering appeals including Mother's Day appeal to churches, and the Easter and Back to School appeals to individuals, all fell far short of 1983 giving and even shorter of our minimum 1984 budget goals. As a result, your Village ministry is seriously, if temporarily, handicapped and crippled. If our operating income does not improve, materially and quickly, this ministry could be in jeopardy.

Many of you will soon be receiving holiday mail from the Village, some of it including an appeal for gifts from individuals to our "Holiday Fund". May I urge you to respond promptly and generously to that appeal? More immediately, it is my prayerful hope that many of you will dispatch another cash gift — right now — today — to help us with those needs which are — right now — today.

Sincerely,
Paul N. Nunnery
Executive Director

Christmas Holiday

Interested friends are reminded that the Village will be pleased to consider written requests for holiday visits by Village children into private homes. Those never serving as a host for these occasions before need to include endorsement of a local Baptist pastor. Address requests to: Mrs. Claire Nowlin, P. O. Box 11308, Jackson, Mississippi, 39213. Requests from holiday hosts are received quite early. If you are interested, we urge you to act promptly.

Gifts of Honor and Memory September 26—October 25,

A portion of the Village view is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many group and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Baptist Record

- Life and Work: Telling the Good News
- Bible Book: History and the day of the Lord
- Uniform: Responding to God's authority

History and the day of the Lord Telling the Good News

By Vernon L. Sikes, Yazoo City
Isaiah 13:1-27:13

We can be so proud of ourselves. Look how rapidly we've advanced in so many areas of our lives — in medicine, in outer space explorations, in communications, in commerce. When we think that we have arrived at the ultimate, the next day brings the "superultimate." Whereas we once thought in terms of millions, we now consider anything beneath the billion level as small. There's a feeling of safety, of protection, as we contemplate the grandeur of society's accomplishments. And we say to ourselves, "It can't get any better."

No doubt, many of Judah's persecutors felt smug in their accomplishments. Look what they had done. They had grown smug in their warfare and in their independence. They needed no one for they were aspiring to bigger and better things and even envisioned themselves able to "ascend above the heights of the clouds" and to make themselves "like the Most High" (14:14).

I. Warnings of judgment (Chapters 13-23)

Chapters 13-23 make up a section that deals primarily with foreign nations who at one time had persecuted Judah. As one reads these chapters, he discovers Isaiah's methodical outline of the doomed locations and their judgment.

In Isaiah 13 and 14, the prophet spoke of Babylon's fall. This "flower of Chaldean culture" was to be cut

down in an unparalleled horror of destruction. The people, including children and babies, were to be "dashed to death against the pavement" (13:16).

How proud the Babylonian kings were, but at death, they would lie "as a carcass in the road, trampled and mangled by horses' hoofs" (14:19).

With Assyria acting as God's tool of judgment, Moab was also to succeed to his wrath (chapters 15 and 16). Moab's fall would be every bit as ghastly as Babylon's. But notice Isaiah's compassion for them as he cried "My heart weeps for Moab" (15:5). Despite the fact that Moab was Judah's enemy, Isaiah was moved with sympathy, which calls us to take stock in ourselves. How do we react toward suffering endured by our enemies? Perhaps we all need to ask God's forgiveness for our rejoicing over their misery.

Chapters 17 and 18 address the Syria/Israel alliance (see chapter 7) and the Ethiopian dynasty. Through the years, the Israelites had violated God's commandments against indiscriminate erection of altars (Ex. 20:24-26). Their acceptance of foreign idols to a multitude of gods was to be judged. The point of Isaiah's prophecy in chapter 18 was to deter Judah's involvement in any alliance with Ethiopia, despite a common anti-Assyrian policy.

God's judgment was to reach from

the powerful Babylon down to and including the inhabitants of the desert (Arabia in 21:13-17). The destinies of all the nations are in God's hands. The mighty Egyptians would be brought to their knees (chapters 19 and 29). Isaiah was appalled by what he foresaw happening to Babylon (21:1-10). Edom was to have temporary respite, but judgment was to follow (21:11-12). Jerusalem itself was to suffer destruction (chapter 22) because they ignored God's calls (22:12-14). Tyre, a city corrupted by wealth and success, was to topple (chapter 23).

Final judgment and victory (chapters 24-27)

God exercises universal judgment (chapter 24) but we must remember that his purpose is not just to condemn. Salvation is always available (chapters 25-27). The punishments are intended to be corrective, to steer us in the right direction. As Isaiah said, "for only when you come in judgment . . . will people turn away from wickedness . . ." (26:9). "Why did God do it? It was to purge away her sins, to rid her of all her . . . idols" (27:9). God was preparing for a day when all will glorify his name (25:3), when there will be no more tears and troubles. Despite their foolishness, God will gather them together, bring them back to Jerusalem, "to worship the Lord on his holy mountain" (27:13).

By Charles E. Myers, Jackson
Acts 22:6-16

This lesson centers about Paul's personal testimony concerning his experience of salvation. We have this experience recorded three times in the book of Acts. If the testimony was recorded three times, you wonder how many hundreds of times Paul must have told that experience. People are willing to listen to an authentic witness who has had an experience and speaks from his heart about that experience.

On this particular occasion Paul was defending himself against an angry mob of Jews in the presence of a group of Roman soldiers including the chief captain of the group. Most of us would say that would not be a good time to share your conversion experience. But apparently to Paul there was no time that was not a good time to share the experience.

Notice that the testimony was brief. He did not spend a lot of time wandering around putting in details that were not essential to the experience. The experience had taken place at a time when he was on his way to persecute people who had had this very experience. Though he had a spectacular experience which included a blinding light and a loud voice, the main gist of it was an encounter with Jesus Christ. This led to an open confession of Jesus as Lord and the following of him in baptism.

Help and encouragement were provided by Ananias, and perhaps some other Christians in Damascus, but it was the Lord who provided salvation. Paul was immediately changed from a persecutor of Christians to a Christian witness and was called of God to serve as God's spokesman. Everything in his life from that day forward reflected the personal experience he had with Christ on the Damascus road. So he simply shares with them what Christ had done for him.

Though there was nothing spectacular about my conversion, my encounter with Christ was just as real as Paul's. My mother took me to Sunday School and the worship service all of my life. When I was a ten-year-old boy I told my Sunday School teacher one Sunday morning that I wanted to become a Christian. I was troubled inside and though I could not understand it then, the Holy Spirit was work-

ing in a little boy's heart. My Sunday School teacher took me to my pastor who read John 3:16 to me.

Then he asked me three questions. First, do you know that you are a sinner? I knew that. That was why I was troubled. I was not wicked and mean, but I was a sinner. Second, do you believe Jesus can forgive your sins? I believed that. My mother had told me that. My pastor had preached that. I believed Jesus could forgive sin. Now the third and most important question, will you accept Jesus, let him forgive your sins and become your Savior? This was altogether different. It was now a personal thing between God and me.

It seemed that a thousand things rushed through my mind, but one thing was paramount. There was a deep desire to accept Christ as my Savior. And so in that moment I said yes to the pastor, yes to God, and became his child. Everything in my life since reflects back upon this, the most significant experience I have ever had.

Have you had an experience with Jesus that brought you into the family of God? Have you ever shared that experience with someone else, telling that person you know what Christ can do because you have experienced his saving grace? If you have never shared that experience, why haven't you? Bold Mission Thrust will never succeed until we as Christians start sharing our experience of salvation.

Let me challenge you to become a witness. Sit down for a little while and reflect on what God has done for you. Put the whole experience in a concise form in your mind. Meditate upon it. Then go find a friend or neighbor and tell him you want to share with him an experience you have had. Then tell that person how Jesus came into your heart and made you his child. Pray that God will use that testimony in a way that will honor him. And do not wait until next week to do it. Do it before Sunday!

Responding to God's authority

By Bobby Lee, Tupelo
Romans 13:1-10

The Christian must live his life as a member of society. He is a citizen of the state. Therefore, he cannot properly escape the duties of Christian citizenship. In fact, one cannot be a good Christian and not be a good citizen. Paul's teaching at this point is of the highest importance. The principle of the separation of church and state is a priceless heritage in our nation's life. But it needs to be matched with another principle: The Christian is a citizen and has a God-given obligation to translate Christian principles into civic responsibilities.

When Paul wrote the passage we are studying, the Roman government was pagan and completely totalitarian. It was not easy for Christians to relate themselves constructively to such a government, but it was necessary to do so. Paul laid down basic principles which guide Christians with respect to civil authority at any time or under any political system.

"The powers that be are ordained of God." This does not mean that God approves a corrupt government, ungodly officials, or unjust legislation. It does mean that civil authority is divinely instituted and is meant to serve good ends. Therefore, it is

right for a Christian to be "subject unto the higher powers," that is, to respect civil authority and be subject to it. Paul stresses the fact that the function of civil authority is the maintenance of order and uprightness. The function of government is to curb lawlessness, immorality, and the wickedness which is destructive to the welfare of the people.

It has to be admitted that in many cases civil authority comes far short of its divine function. It does not truly reflect the ordinance of God.

The Christian has duties as a citizen. Paul mentions particularly the obligation to pay taxes. This is a moral obligation. The administrators and operators of government render an aid to society generally. "They are God's ministers" and have a right to support for their services.

We therefore have an obligation to "render to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour." Unfortunately, many public officials are not personally honorable. But the position they fill merits the respect of Christian citizens.

The teaching of Paul should be ap-

plied to all aspects of civic responsibility. Christian citizens have an obligation to vote, to offer themselves for public office, to serve on juries, to champion civic righteousness, to work for public morality, to work for the public welfare, to contend for civil liberties, and to fight for the public defense. Christians ought to become a mighty force for morality in government, for justice and freedom for all men, irrespective of race or class, and for principles which guarantee an enduring democracy.

The Christian moves in a wider circle of social contacts still. There is one all-inclusive principle to govern his relationships with society: "Love one another," Love is the one debt which the Christian owes all men. This debt should not be denied or regretted; it should be acknowledged and cultivated. Let no one misunderstand what love is. It is not sentimental emotion or admiration of ugly traits in some other person. It is rather active good will reaching out toward other persons with appreciation of their worth, respect for their personality, and a desire to help them. Thus, love is to relate us properly to people of other races, other nations, other classes, our enemies, all people

everywhere. If we do not love men for Christ's sake, we have no kinship with Christ.

Paul goes on to explain that love will lead to the fulfillment of every social duty: love fulfills the law. The apostle quotes five of the ten commandments, the five most fundamental in human relations. A person who loves, according to the true standard, could never commit adultery, or steal, or kill, or bear false witness, or covet. In fact, any other commandment would be comprehended in the all-inclusive one to love one's neighbor as oneself.

Baptist Record

November 1, 1984